

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Take a breath
Bernard Levin on
Michael Heseltine
(below) and free
speech



Take the tube
Skirt lengths are
no longer a fashion issue.
But widths are. Suzy
Menkes reports on the
Fashion Page
Take care
Opposition is growing
among American
scientists to President
Reagan's "star wars"
plan to put weapons
in space
Take a look
Brian Glanville on the
world of football
Take a chance
Computer Horizons
offers another chance to
win a school computer

Three shot dead in gospel hall

Three people were shot dead when gunmen burst into a gospel hall in the border village of Daxley, near Keady, Armagh. First reports indicated that seven other people were injured.

Schmidt plea on missiles fails

Despite a powerful appeal from former Chancellor Schmidt, the Social Democratic Congress in Cologne rejected the deployment of new Nato missiles in West Germany. Page 6

Falkland forum

Conservative MPs are among politicians, academics and businessmen planning to campaign for a peaceful settlement of the Falkland Islands dispute. Page 2

Villain to hero

Trevor Fishlock describes how Maurice Bishop changed in American eyes from communist despot to local hero in the first of three articles on Grenada. Page 7

Shopping spree

High street shops should see a record Christmas spending spree. Almost 80 per cent of retailers expect November sales to be up on a year ago, according to the CBI. Page 15

Hit for six



Mr Graham Wainwright, father of the sextuplets born in Liverpool on Friday. Doctors twice saved the babies from possible death before the birth. Page 3

Shergar colt

A colt of Shergar, the stolen Derby winner, was sold for 260,000 guineas at Goffs bloodstock sales in the Irish Republic. Photograph, page 3

The Times

We regret that following an industrial dispute earlier editions of The Times on Saturday appeared with certain pages not in normal sequence. Some items were omitted from all editions.

Leader page 11
Letters: On Cyprus, from Mr F. Noel-Baker, and others; On bridge entry, from Mr R. W. Ellis, and Mr S. J. B. Langdale; Call to arms, from Lord Gibson
Festivals, pages 8-10
Helmut Schmidt on cruise and Pershing, the social welfare benefits jungle; Labour's new election campaign, by Robin Cook, MP; Spectrum interviews Muriel Spark; Modern Times on handbags
Obituary, page 12
Air Vice-Marshal Sir Geoffrey Bromet, the Hon Richard Stanley

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Israeli jet downed but Shamir says raids will continue

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister, issued a blunt warning yesterday, after Israeli air strikes on Syrian-held targets near Beirut that Israel would continue to launch preemptive raids and would introduce new tactics against "terrorists in Lebanon and elsewhere".

Speaking last night on the Arabic service of Israel television, the Prime Minister repeated threats to Syria's repeated threats to go to war with Israel. He claimed that Israel possessed all the necessary information about Soviet missiles sited on Syrian territory, adding: "The Syrians must know that whoever dares to attack Israel will be punished".

During the raids, Israel's dominance of the skies over Lebanon suffered a serious setback with confirmation of the loss of an Israeli jet, only the third to be shot down over Lebanon since the war began there 17 months ago.

Syrian claims to have brought down a second aircraft were denied by the military command in Tel Aviv.

The latest air attacks came as the Israeli Cabinet met in closed session for the second time in a week to discuss Syria's military build-up.

Government sources claimed that "Syrian belligerence" would be a prominent topic at next week's Washington summit between Mr Shamir and President Reagan. There are reports Israel will press the United States to supply it with Pershing missiles.

Yesterday's air strikes, in which the Israeli-built Kfir fighter was lost, were the third series ordered since the suicide bombing of the Tyre military headquarters on November 4.

A military communiqué said that the raids on targets close to the Beirut-Damascus highway, in Syrian-controlled Lebanon, came in response to "a long series of terrorist actions, attacks and attempted attacks against Israeli soldiers, including the planting of a roadside explosive in Sidon last Thursday which caused the death of an Israeli soldier and the wounding of six others."

● **AINTOURA, LEBANON:** Israeli Kfir fighter-bombers ran into a curtain of anti-aircraft missiles over the Aley mountains of central Lebanon yesterday when they launched a series of strikes on Druze militia-controlled and Syrian-occupied areas east of Beirut.

As dozens of Sam 7 rockets, shoulder-fired by militiamen on the valley slopes and hillsides, criss-crossed the skies, one jet was hit and fell 5,000 ft to crash near Beirut international airport.

The pilot parachuted to safety, but only just. He landed not far from the headquarters of the British contingent to the multinational force, but only 200 yards from the suburbs controlled by Shia Muslim militias. His aircraft, with its air-to-air missiles still attached to the broken wings, lay smouldering on the Beirut front line between Lebanese troops and Shia gunmen.

The air attacks, which involved up to 18 jets, raised two serious questions about the reprisal policy adopted by the Israelis, most recently by the French and potentially by the Americans.

First, the Israeli jets flew up the Lebanese coastline above ships of the US Sixth Fleet before turning over the US Marine base to begin their bombing runs.

Yet the Americans, who claim they have no foreknowledge of Israeli raids, made no attempt to defend their fleet or clear the airspace over the multinational force, suggesting they knew of the raid in advance or coordinated it with the Israelis.

Second, the Israelis were attacking areas controlled principally by the Druze, who almost certainly have no connection with the guerrilla assaults in the south which the Israelis believe to be the responsibility of the Shia Muslim groups.

The Israelis could hardly have anticipated the groundfire into which their aircraft flew. As the raid began shortly after 2pm, it was driving on the



Lucky escape: An Israeli pilot drops to safety.

Continued on back page, col 1

Grenada to top agenda in Delhi

From Michael Hamlyn Hyderabad

Mrs Margaret Thatcher arrives in Delhi tomorrow for the Commonwealth heads of government meeting certain to hear a welter of complaint about the American invasion of Grenada.

While she has expressed reservations about the paucity of American consultation before the invasion, several other Commonwealth members denounce the operation and will not hesitate to say so.

President Forbes Burnham of Guyana will be foremost among them. A story is circulating here that he tipped off Havana when the Marines were on their way.

Mr Burnham is likely to have the support of Mr George Chambers, the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, but the heaviest criticism will probably come from Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, who yesterday said: "Nothing can justify the Grenada invasion. It is incompatible with the fundamental laws of international conduct."

The Grenada debate could turn into an argument between three women prime ministers as Miss Eugenia Charles of Dominica may also appear at the conference.

Miss Charles is the Chairman of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, which invited Washington to intervene, and she will have the support of the other Caribbean governments assisting the Americans, notably Mr Edward Seaga, the Prime Minister of Jamaica, and Mr Tom Adams, the Prime Minister of Barbados.

All sides will be hoping for approval of the activities of the Commonwealth Secretariat, led by Mr Sonny Ramphal, who has helped to establish the new Grenadian Government.

Mrs Thatcher is likely to find herself at odds with Mrs Gandhi again when it comes to discussing the economic relations between the rich and the poor countries of the world.

Government admits Sellafield concern

By David Nicholson-Lord

The Government yesterday declared itself dissatisfied with safety standards at the nuclear reprocessing plant at Sellafield, in Cumbria, after a radioactive slick drifted inshore from the plant's Irish Sea discharge pipeline, closing a 200-yard stretch of beach.

The beach was reopened yesterday afternoon after being guarded by the police since the slick was sighted on Friday. The incident brought a call from Greenpeace, the environmental group, for immediate suspension of discharges, and prompted strong criticisms from Mr William Waldegrave, an Under Secretary of State at the Department of the Environment.

Speaking on BBC Radio 4's *The World This Weekend*, Mr Waldegrave said that the Government had been worried for some years about the pipeline discharges and had pressed British Nuclear Fuels (BNFL), which operates the plant, to reduce them. That had happened but there was still room for progress.

Mr Waldegrave said that the Government's aim was to reach a position where nothing measurable was added to existing levels of radiation. Safety standards had to be "better than the best". Asked whether BNFL had been meeting those standards over the pipe, he said it had not.

He added: "The Government has decided there is room for improvement. There have been major improvements made and we don't rule out making further improvements in the future."

His criticisms came as a crew of 15 volunteers on board Cedarlea, the Greenpeace vessel, headed for the Cumbrian coast for a further round of protests against the discharges from Sellafield, formerly Windscale.

Greenpeace claims that the beach closure was the second incident involving radioactive slicks in less than a week.

Mr Peter Wilkinson, the group's UK director, said: "Allowing the discharges to continue is an absolute disgrace. We already know full well that they are having a health impact. The latest incidents show that the situation is getting out of control."

BNFL last night declined to comment on Mr Waldegrave's criticisms. It said: "We keep within the standards set by a number of government departments, including Mr Waldegrave's, and our objective is to attain a level of discharges as low as reasonably achievable".

The company denied that there was any danger to the public.

30,000 miners respond to new redundancy offer

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

About 30,000 miners over the age of 50 have applied for new redundancy payments. But only those few thousand at or near to pits which are closing are entitled to apply for the money offered by the National Coal Board.

The number of requests represents about two out of three pitmen over 50, and is being put forward by the Government as an indictment of the leadership of Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the National Union of Mineworkers.

Suggestions that the pace of applications for severance has increased since the union imposed its overtime ban three weeks ago are not confirmed by officials at the coal board or the Department of Energy, who say it is too early to judge.

Continued on back page, col 8

Jumbo tour in Kipling country



Sahib on safari: The Duke of Edinburgh on top of Vandevi on his way to inspect the tigers of Kanha in central India yesterday. (Roar of disapproval, page 6).

Three Kremlin factions emerge as Andropov fails to re-appear

From Richard Owen, Moscow

President Andropov's continued absence is creating a power vacuum in the Kremlin and has already led to "extraordinary tensions" in the leadership, sources say. This coincides with the beginning of a campaign fully to rehabilitate the late President Brezhnev.

Mr Andropov has not been seen since August 18 and did not attend the annual Red Square parade on November 7. Medical sources say he has had a kidney operation.

There are persistent reports that this involved a kidney transplant - possibly an artificial kidney from the US but this cannot be confirmed. Officials insist Mr Andropov has a cold.

Sources said three factions were crystallizing as Soviet leaders stake stock of the future. General Vitaly Fedorchuk, the tough, powerful Interior Minister and former KGB chief, is reportedly playing a key role behind the scenes.

General Fedorchuk is not a Politburo member, but wields immense influence, controlling the police and judiciary while retaining his KGB links. The Politburo last week approved

measures strengthening ties between the Interior Ministry and the party structure.

Sources said that although he was appointed by Mr Andropov - and was close to him when head of the KGB in Ukraine - General Fedorchuk was now supporting Mr Konstantin Chernenko.

Mr Chernenko, who is 72, was defeated in the leadership race last year, but is acting head of the Politburo in Mr Andropov's absence.

Though widely regarded as politically ineffectual, Mr Chernenko is in robust health and represents aggrieved Brezhnevites who were purged when Mr Andropov came to power but have since recovered lost ground.

The second faction is headed by Mr Grigory Romanov, aged 60, who has the support of Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, 50, who has himself been mentioned as a possible successor to Mr Andropov. Mr Romanov and Mr Gorbachov now appear to have formed a tactical alliance.

The two men are close and Mr Gorbachov accompanied Mr Romanov last June when he toured Leningrad to say farewell

to the city he ruled for 13 years before moving to Moscow as party secretary.

The third faction, surrounding Mr Geidar Aliyev, is something of an unknown quantity. Like Mr Chernenko, Mr Aliyev, who is an Azerbaijani, has been in the limelight as chairman of a Politburo committee, on consumer goods. Mr Chernenko heads the committee on education.

President Andropov is said to be under pressure to reappear in public at the earliest opportunity to make it clear he is still in command and to put a stop to factional manoeuvring before it gets out of hand.

He is continuing to make authoritative statements on international affairs through Tass and Pravda, but party officials now preparing for next month's crucial Central Committee are looking for a firm lead and a visible leader.

Mr Chernenko is thought to be the beneficiary and possibly the initiator of a campaign to restore the memory of Brezhnev.

Three days after Mr Andropov's failure to appear in Red Square, Pravda published a remarkable tribute to Brezhnev. At its last meeting, the Politburo discussed celebrations next year marking the thirtieth anniversary of the huge "Virgin lands" project, for which Brezhnev rather than Khrushchev is given credit.

Some observers think the recent report that Mr Andropov was shot by Brezhnev's son Yuri - in itself absurd - was disseminated by the pro-Brezhnev faction, since it leaves the vague impression that the Andropov regime is shaky, while bringing the Brezhnev name once more to the fore.



Gen. Fedorchuk (centre) plays the key role with Andropov (left) and Chernenko (right).

Dickinson to train for Sangster

Michael Dickinson, the champion National Hunt trainer for the past two seasons, is to switch to flat racing in 1986 when he will be private trainer to Robert Sangster, the Pools millionaire and leading racehorse owner (Michael Seely writes). Mr Dickinson will be based at Whatcombe, the historic training centre in Oxfordshire, for which Mr Sangster is believed to have paid around £2m. Mr Dickinson, who brought off the remarkable feat of saddling the first five horses in this year's Cheltenham Gold Cup, said yesterday that he would continue to train jumpers at Harwood in Yorkshire until 1986.

Mr Sangster, whose best horses have included the Derby winners, The Minstrel and Golden Fleece, will be sending some 70 horses to Mr Dickinson.

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Closed shop talks go on at Acas

By Barrie Clement

Talks at the offices of the conciliation service ACAS aimed at resolving the National Graphical Association's action against the *Stockport Messenger* group continued in London yesterday amid threats that the dispute would spread to national newspapers and magazines.

The dispute concerns the long-running argument over closed shop practices.

In a separate dispute, members of SOGAT '82 were expected to extend their unofficial "secondary picketing" of magazines in response to the closure with a loss of 550 jobs of the British Printing and Communication Corporation (BPCC) plant in Park Royal, London.

Sogat's national council will today decide whether to back their members who took action over the weekend disrupting the distribution of Sunday newspaper colour magazines in sympathy with their colleagues at Park Royal.

Meanwhile, Mr Joe Wade, general secretary of the NGA, is likely to be advised today by a special meeting of the TUC's employment committee that he should pay the £50,000 fine imposed last week for contempt of court.

He will refuse, inform them of his prediction that his national council will tomorrow back his refusal and tell them that he will be calling on the full General Council of the TUC to give his union financial backing. The NGA's assets could be under threat of confiscation.

Mr Wade's union, which continued to picket the *Messenger's* Warrington work, yesterday, is attempting to negotiate a closed shop on the company's new three-sheet newspapers.

Spy inquiry sought on South African

There is concern in Western intelligence circles that a highly-placed South African naval officer now on trial for treason may have passed on to the Russians plans for the possible use by the West of the Simonstown naval base in the event of war.

However, British security authorities appeared to be less concerned yesterday about suggestions that he may have disclosed information on British equipment. They dismissed a claim that information from him could have contributed to

By Rodney Cowton, Michael Hornsby in Johannesburg and Craig Seton

the sinking of HMS Sheffield and HMS Coventry during the Falklands conflict.

Mr Ted Leadbitter, Labour MP for Hartlepool, who exposed the Anthony Blunt scandal, has tabled a question in the House of Commons calling for a full statement from the Prime Minister.

Mr Kenneth Warren, Conservative MP for Hastings and Rye, has written to the Prime Minister asking her to allow the Security Commission to investigate the case.

If Mrs Margaret Thatcher feels there has been a serious breach of British security, a reference to the commission would be an almost automatic course of action. However, there was no indication last night that she was intending to approach the commission.

Continued on back page, col 3

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Tory MPs in campaign for an alternative to Fortress Falklands

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Several Conservative MPs are involved in a move to set up a new forum of politicians from all parties, academics and businessmen aimed at promoting a peaceful settlement of the Falkland Islands dispute between Britain and Argentina.

Delicate discussions are taking place at Westminster about the group, expected to be called the South Atlantic Committee, which it is hoped will be formed by Christmas. Foreign Office ministers have been made aware of the initiative.

Its leaders recognize that they are on sensitive ground and do not expect a warm response for their plans from the Prime Minister, who has repeatedly expressed the view that there is no option to the Fortress Falklands policy.

Mr Cyril Townsend, Conservative MP for Bexleyheath, and Mr George Foulkes, Labour MP for Carriac, Cummock and Doon, who are the key figures behind the move, both served on the all-party Com-

mons select committee on foreign affairs which, though its report was never officially published, earlier this year questioned the long-term viability of a Fortress Falklands policy. It concluded that the government should not turn its back on talks with Argentina.

Neither has been reappointed to the committee, whose membership was fixed last week. Mr Foulkes would not have been able to serve as he had recently been appointed to Labour's front bench as a spokesman on Europe.

The initiative has support already from the Liberal and Social Democratic parties. One of the academic members is likely to be Dr Walter Little, a specialist on Latin-American affairs, who was the chief adviser to the select committee in its inquiry on the Falklands.

Several leading companies, whose business has suffered from the loss of normal relations with Argentina, have expressed an interest in being

represented on the group. Funds for its operation are being raised, and it is hoped to employ a full-time secretary-organizer. Peers and churchmen are also expected to serve.

The venture began during the summer after Mr Townsend, Mr Foulkes and Dr Little, met Argentine academics and officials, along with a panel of American academics, at the University of Maryland, near Washington, and are understood to have established common ground on the need to restore good relations.

Mr Foulkes said that the aim was to encourage people towards thinking about a negotiated settlement to the Falklands problem: the alternative was the building up of Fortress Falklands.

Port Stanley (Reuter) - A Royal Air Force pilot died yesterday when his Harrier crashed on a routine flight over the Falkland Islands, a military spokesman said. The jump jet went down in Lafonia, in the south of East Falkland Island.



World chess championship semi-finalists getting together in London yesterday. From left Gary Kasparov and his opponent Viktor Korchnoi; Vassily Smyslov and his opponent Zoltan Ribli. (Photograph: John Manning)

Korchnoi faces clash of age and politics

Viktor Korchnoi, one of the most controversial grandmasters in the history of chess, yesterday met the young genius from his Soviet homeland, Gary Kasparov, on the eve of what is billed as the greatest chess event in Britain for more than a century. They play each other at the

Great Eastern Hotel in London today in the semi-finals of the series to produce a challenger to meet the world champion, Anatoly Karpov.

The other semi-final is between Vassily Smyslov of the Soviet Union and the Hungarian grandmaster Zoltan Ribli. Korchnoi, aged 53, and

Kasparov, aged 20, are agreed on one thing: age could be a vital factor when they clash. And, Korchnoi said, so could politics.

Korchnoi, who was born in Leningrad, defected in 1976 after representing his country and then twice challenged Karpov, whom he describes as

"the banner of the Soviet regime", in bitter chessboard conflicts in 1978 and 1981.

But Kasparov, widely tipped as the next world champion, said "I just play chess".

The semi-finals were officially opened by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Nigel Lawson.

Overseas doctors face time limit

By Nicholas Timmins, Health Services Correspondent

Hundreds of overseas doctors working in National Health Service hospitals will lose the right to practise in the UK next year, and hundreds more are likely to follow over the next few years.

The doctors, many from the Indian sub-continent, were given limited registration to practise and train in Britain for five years, under a scheme started in February 1979.

But many have not been able to achieve the higher qualifications they need to transfer to the full registration which would give them the right to practise in the UK indefinitely.

As their five-year periods run out they will face the choice of remaining in Britain unable to work as doctors, or going back to their countries of origin without the higher qualifications they came to the UK to get.

The Department of Health estimates that about 300 will be affected in the early part of next year, but admits the figure is "a very rough guess". Dr Krishna Koripara, secretary of the Overseas Doctors' Association, says he fears the numbers could be higher. "Many of these doctors are the victims of the system that has been unfair to them," he said.

To acquire full registration the doctors need two years' experience as registrars. Dr Koripara said: "Many have been used as pairs of hands to keep the health service going rather than in posts where they could get proper training and higher qualifications."

Without higher qualifications and with medical unemployment rising, they have been unable to get registrar posts in competition with British graduates.

"These doctors are going to be very bitter," he said, "instead of getting the training for which they came they will have been used to keep the health service running."

We believe these doctors should at least be given the kind of training which the medical profession acknowledges they have not in fact had, and should then be considered for full registration."

The Government, however, shows no willingness to change the rules. Ministers argue that the doctors clearly knew at the beginning that they would have only limited registration. With junior doctors' leaders claiming that up to 3,000 doctors are now unemployed in the United Kingdom, the Government is unlikely to change its mind.

Tory overspenders 'escape penalties'

By John Young

The Government's proposals to curb rates are directed arbitrarily and viciously at local authorities which have incurred its displeasure, rather than at those which are genuinely overspending, a report published today by the Labour Research Department says.

The report gives as examples several staunchly Conservative councils, such as the City of London, Mendip, South Lakeland, Broxbourne, West Oxfordshire and Cheltenham, which it says are among the worst offenders by the Government's criteria. But they have escaped penalties while Labour councils in inner London and in

Scotland, such as Lothian and Glasgow, have been victimized, the report says.

The report argues that, far from soaring, local authority spending has failed to keep pace with the growth of the economy. The suggestion in the White Paper that rates constitute "a particularly heavy burden on business and commerce" is contradicted by the Confederation of British Industry's own figures which show that rates have amounted to less than 2 per cent of production costs for the past 20 years.

Your Council Under Attack (Labour Research Department, 78 Blackfriars Road, London SE1 8HS: 60p).

War on gobbledygook

A campaign is being launched to get rid of gobbledygook in contracts, which a report published today says is so baffling that the contracts may be misunderstood or not read at all by customers signing them.

The report, Small Print, a joint effort by the National Consumer Council and Plain English Campaign, has been sent to trade associations and companies.

Special attention is being paid to the credit industry

because consumer credit regulations just announced by the Government stipulate that credit agreements must contain certain basic information and be "easily legible".

Mr Jeremy Mitchell, director of the National Consumer Council, said there would be a fresh approach to paper work, as virtually all agreements would have to be rewritten.

The report challenges the myth that documents in "legal language" are more valid than those in plain English.

Government backs tough campus line

By Our Political Reporter

The Government is supporting moves by universities to withdraw funds from student unions when there are rowdy demonstrations against ministers or they are prevented from speaking.

Ministers are concerned at the growth in serious incidents. At Manchester University last week Mr Michael Heseltine, the Secretary of State for Defence, was sprayed with red paint by anti-nuclear protesters. Sir Keith Joseph, the Secretary of State for Education and Science, was the subject of a noisy demonstration at Warwick University recently.

The Government's tough line and its determination to maintain free speech in the universities was emphasized by Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, in a speech on Saturday.

He backed the decision on Warwick University to make a 10 per cent cut - or £30,000 - in its grant to the student union because of the demonstration against Sir Keith, and suggested that similar action should be taken against those responsible for the attack on Mr Heseltine, which he called a disgrace.

Mr Jenkin, speaking to Nuneaton Conservative Association, said that free speech lay at the heart of a university and at the centre of society.

New methods of financing student unions introduced two years ago have made it possible for universities to impose "fines". Until then most union membership fees had been paid for the students by their local education authorities. Now the student union has to apply for part of the university's funding, competing with others calls on resources.

Student boycott planned over £30,000 'fine'

Bars and bookshops at Warwick University are to be boycotted by students in protest at the £30,000 penalty imposed after the rowdy reception given to Sir Keith Joseph.

The National Union of Students yesterday announced a campaign of resistance aimed at quashing the cut in Warwick University's student union grant.

If the dispute continues into the new year, the union will consider a rent strike in halls of residence. A spokesman said: "Our aim is to show that this 'fine' is a purely arbitrary and unjust imposition on people who weren't responsible for the action against Sir Keith Joseph."

The union contends that a left-wing militant group and not students were responsible.

New report sent to DPP on Deptford blaze

By Mark Rosselli

Police investigating the fire which killed 13 young blacks in Deptford, south London, nearly three years ago have sent a new report to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Scotland Yard refused to comment yesterday on claims that new evidence names a black man as the arsonist who killed 13 young people at a birthday party in New Cross Road.

Black pressure groups have consistently maintained that the blaze was caused by a firebomb thrown by a white racist, and that the police have been engaged in a cover-up.

An inquest held four months after the deaths returned an

open verdict, amid accusations that it had been improperly conducted and that the police had forced young blacks to write false statements.

An application to the High Court by relatives of the dead for a new inquest was rejected last year.

Last week an independent report commissioned and published by the Metropolitan Police called the police handling of the Deptford fire "a disaster".

But it now seems that the police are ready to bring criminal charges. Yesterday's Sunday Telegraph claimed that detectives believe a black man, motivated by revenge or jeal-

ousy, and now thought to be in the United States, was "almost certainly" responsible, and that several people have not told the truth about the fire.

Mr Dariusz Howe, vice-chairman of the New Cross Massacre Action Committee, said yesterday: "It is not for me to believe or not believe. We hold to our original position - that whoever did this should be brought to justice, whatever his class, colour or creed."

"What I find curious is that the same time that the Internal Policy Studies Institute criticized the police over New Cross, they come out with this new evidence. I find it quite remarkable."

By-laws threat to Greenham camps

By Pat Healy

New by-laws came into force at midnight last night enabling Newbury District Council to remove tents or anything else that could be described as a building on the land surrounding Greenham Common air base, where the first cruise missiles arrived last week.

But, despite rumours that swept the women's peace camps at the base after "information" from police officers, there was no sign last night that the new by-laws will be enforced immediately.

The women consulted lawyers, councillors and the police on their legal position yesterday and concluded that, despite the new by-laws, immediate eviction would be illegal. The council to ban the playing of games on the common and to remove parked cars, require notices to be posted in the area before they can be acted on.

Some of the women responded to the rumours by beginning to pack essential belongings ready to move to other sites. One said: "We believe there are parts of the common that are not owned by Newbury council and we will move there. There is no way they are going to get rid of us until the cruise missiles have gone."

But the immediate threat of eviction appeared to have been removed when the chief executive of Newbury council said he had only one bailiff and he was away because of illness. The

police said the number of officers on duty at the base had not changed over the weekend.

Hundreds of women visited the peace camps over the weekend, including the actress Julie Christie, large numbers of men arrived, too, and a new notice was put up welcoming their support but reminding them that the peace camps are for women only, and asking them to leave after tea-time each day.

Demonstrations during the weekend were muted, although 17 women were arrested on Saturday night, after dancing in the roadway. They were charged with obstruction.

Mr Michael McNair-Wilson, Conservative MP for Newbury, has written to the Home Secretary asking him to reconsider the decision to give no more than a fifty per cent government grant towards the cost of policing the base.

Thames Valley ratpayers will have to pick up the rest of the bill, estimated by the police to be £1.5m for the twelve months up to the end of last June.

Mr McNair-Wilson said yesterday: "Greenham has become a national issue not a local one. We have had police from Surrey, Hampshire, Avon and Somerset, Wiltshire and the Met sending in reinforcements and they will have to be reimbursed by Thames Valley Police."

Unionist warning to Adams

From Richard Ford

The largest Unionist-party in Northern Ireland displayed its new found confidence at the weekend by declaring that even after 14 years of terrorism "loyalists" could now never be defeated.

Mr James Moynihan, leader of the Official Unionists, declared to loud applause that Mr Gerry Adams, president of Provisional Sinn Féin would never win as loyalists had the determination and staying power.

Addressing 300 delegates at the party's annual conference in Belfast, Mr Moynihan said that they must never underestimate acceptance of the status quo or the benefits of union with Britain even among young nationalists.

Mr Moynihan urged more thought be given to allowing civil servants from Northern Ireland to play a much larger part in decision making and administration but gave a warning that it was premature to envisage Ulstermen taking ministerial posts.

He added that the party was determined to rid Ulster of direct rule and the order in council system of legislating for Northern Ireland.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, he said, had yet to convince others that constitutional certainty was the key to the defeat of terrorism but added that the party shared her view of the desirability of good neighbourly relations with the Irish Republic.

Salmon rights to be auctioned

Some of Britain's best fishing stretches are to be offered for auction next year to support the work of the Atlantic Salmon Trust (John Young writes).

Encouraged by the success of this year's auction, the trust has expanded its list to include beats on the Wye, Exe, the Frome, the Piddle, the Wilshire Avon, the Lure, the Dart, the Uss, and the North Tyne, as well as several coveted rivers in Scotland such as the Thurso, the Nith, the North Esk, the Tay, and the Aberdeenshire Dees.

Postal bids which start at £10 a day, must be received before January 1, 1984. Catalogues and information can be obtained from Mr Alex Pritchard, Courthouse Manor, Lady Margaret Road, Sunningdale, Berkshire SL5 9QH.

Crane climber trapped for hour

A man, aged 34, slipped while climbing a crane at Bristol City Dock yesterday, and dangled 130 ft above the pavement for more than an hour with his ankles snagged in the boom.

He was rescued by firemen after a policeman noticed him, and was taken to hospital with a broken leg.

Factory death

A maintenance engineer was crushed to death yesterday by the machine he was working on. Mr Ian Marsh, aged 23, of Clare Crescent, Cosley, West Midlands, was killed instantly at Beams Foundry in Tipton, West Midlands.

BMW's blocked

Councillors on Gwent police authority have rejected a recommendation to spend £250,000 equipping the force with West German BMW 525 patrol cars. Instead, Ford is to be asked if the new Granada can be modified.

Bravery award

Mr Alan Roberts, a Cleethorpes fisherman, is to receive a Royal Humane Society award for an attempt to save a man who fell overboard in the North Sea.

Campus battle

Karachi (AP) - Rival student groups hurled grenades and fired pistols and automatic rifles at each other at the campus of Karachi University but no casualties were reported.

Police want stricter security in jails

By Peter Evans

Home Affairs Correspondent

After the escape of the 51st prisoner this year from Sudbury open-prison in Derbyshire, the police have called for stricter security.

The call coincides with government moves to transfer more inmates serving long sentences, including life, to open prisons.

Three murderers serving life absconded from Leyhill open prison, near Bristol, last month, at a time when concern was also being expressed by prison chiefs about "an alarming increase" nationally in the number of escapes by prisoners under escort.

At any one time there are about 200 prisoners on the run after escapes from all types of jail, hospitals or absconding from leave, escorts or working parties.

The call for stricter security comes from Mr Alan Eastwood, vice-chairman of the Police Federation, which represents 120,000 officers up to the rank of chief inspector.

He told The Times: "There is frustration among police officers who see criminals tried and convicted escape almost at will from prisons."

The escape of 51 prisoners from one jail highlighted the extra work placed on the police in having to recapture them, he said.

"We would view with some disquiet the placing in open prisons of offenders imprisoned on more serious charges," Mr Eastwood added.

The Prison Department is seeking to engage local authority agencies which govern the type of inmate sent to an open prison.

Lord Elton, Under Secretary of State at the Home Office, has told local MPs about moves to lift curbs on three open prisons, Ashwell in Leicestershire, Ford in West Sussex and Kirkham in Lancashire.

A period in open jails for long-sentence prisoners, including lifers, is regarded as a way of preparing them for eventual release.

The Prison Department's latest figures, in the annual report, show that 131 lifers were being held in open prisons. Last year there was a sharp rise from 38 to 438 in escapes from open prisons, out of a total of 553 from all establishments, an increase from 461 the previous year.

In the first four months of this year 30 prisoners escaped from prisons, in 25 separate incidents, which prompted Mr William Brister, Deputy director-general of the prison services, to speak of the increase as "alarming".

The murderers from Leyhill were recaptured within hours after a police hunt. Darren Marshall, aged 23, the 51st man to escape from Sudbury, West Midlands, last Wednesday after being on the run for 22 hours. He is serving a sentence for theft and drugs offences.

Owen speaks of regret at Healey defeat

Dr David Owen said last night he might have stayed in the Labour Party if Mr Denis Healey had become its leader.

"A lot of history over the last five years would have been different," the SDP leader said in an interview on Radio 4.

Lord Owen, who was elected Labour in 1981 to help found the SDP, named Mr Healey as one of his political heroes.

He said it was regrettable that Mr Healey had not "conducted himself in a way that he could have become the leader of the Labour Party". Asked if he would have remained in the party had this happened, Dr Owen replied: "Maybe. Who knows? I hope so."

But he also criticized the Labour right wing for losing touch with reality. Dr Owen said: "I think the fact that Denis Healey did not stand up and fight, which is what he ought to have done, demonstrated how much the rot had set in. Good people were just getting used to compromising on essentials that they had lost sight of reality."

Dr Owen also praised Mr James Callaghan, in whose administration he served as Foreign Minister, as "a sensible and good leader".

Correction

The merger of St Bartholomew's and The London Hospital medical colleges at Queen Mary College concerns preclinical students only, and is not a merger of the whole of the colleges as suggested on November 10. Preclinical students are those in their first two years. Clinical medical and dental students, about two thirds of the colleges' students, will remain in their present medical colleges at St Bartholomew's or The London.

Overseas selling prices
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Sextuplets saved twice from possible death by medicine and luck

Britain's newborn sextuplets were saved from possible death at least twice in the crucial weeks before birth by a mixture of medicine and luck, one of the medical team said yesterday.

Dr Richard Cooke, a consultant paediatrician, told a press conference at Liverpool Maternity Hospital, where the six girls were born last Friday, that Mrs Janet Walton, their mother, went into labour at least twice in a crucial 20-week period.

But the specialist medical team gave her various drugs, which stopped the babies being born too early. "It was a mixture of medicine and luck", Dr Cooke said.

"It was early on at a time when we would have wanted her to go on longer into the pregnancy. It is fair to say the babies were saved a couple of times. Had they have been born then, the result would have been far less favourable."

Five of the six girls, who weigh between 2lb 10oz and 3lb 9oz, were breathing normally. Although the second baby was still on a ventilator, Dr Cooke said that he was confident she would survive. "She is the unluckiest one and has immature lungs but this is common with premature babies, who can be on ventilators for as long as seven to 10 days after being born."

"The survival rate in cases like this is in excess of 95 per cent", he said.

Dr Cooke said that the baby had "hyaline membrane dis-

ease", also known as respiratory distress syndrome. "The other five are doing very well."

Mr Graham Walton, aged 33, the babies' father, is a painter and decorator and the family lives in Browning Road, Wallasey.

The six girls are all in one room at the hospital in individual incubators.

Doctors say that they could be home for Christmas and would be then probably weigh about 4lb each.

Dr Cooke said that they were all on a drip to give them sugar and water, and the next stage would be to feed them through a tube to the stomach. "Eventually we will get them on to sucking feeds", he said.

Dr Cooke described Mrs Walton, aged 31, as an exceptional mum.

"She is a quite extraordinary patient who has remained extraordinarily calm throughout", he said. "I do not think it has really hit her yet and she is very involved in thinking about her babies."

"She's a remarkable woman and has shown a remarkable lack of panic at all times, even when a lot of medical people have been around her."

Mr Usama Abdulla, consultant obstetrician and gynaecologist, who led the team of 15 which delivered the babies by caesarian section, said that Mrs Walton had spent a very satisfactory night sleeping. "She is much improved compared to

yesterday and is quite happy to be resting."

He added that she was out of bed and walking about.

Mr Abdulla would not disclose which fertility drug Mrs Walton had taken, but he said that it had been used before in multiple births.

Medical experts had hoped to have a video film of the birth, but there was a hitch. Dr Cooke said: "I gather the video equipment worked for only part of the time and it is rather frustrating. Only part of the birth was filmed."

However, photographs were taken for scientific purposes.

Meanwhile, the world's press continued to try to buy the exclusive story and pictures.

Mr Rex Makin, a solicitor acting for the Walton, was accepting bids yesterday in a corner of the hospital's reception area. Figures of up to £10,000 were being suggested for the first picture of the couple and their babies.

Negotiations so far suggest that the family may benefit by between £250,000 and £500,000 for its exclusive story over a contract of 18 years.



Prize boy: Shergar's foal with Tommy Stack, manager of his stud in co Tipperary, before last night's sale. The son of the Derby winner which was kidnapped in the republic was auctioned at Goff's bloodstock sales in co Kildare.

Dispute is delaying house sale checks

By Christopher Warner
Property Correspondent

A dispute over cost-saving measures in the Land Registry could soon cause serious delays for house-buyers because of union opposition to a plan to end certain checking procedures.

So far only a few hundred of the 7,000 civil servants involved in the work are on strike, but the number could increase if the Land Registry management press ahead with proposals to redeploy staff to do the work previously done by those now on strike.

Solicitors and their house-buying clients are becoming increasingly concerned at the possibility of delays in their purchasing, and the Law Society said yesterday that it was monitoring the effects of the dispute.

The society is likely to discuss the matter further in the coming week.

The dispute is over plans by the Land Registry to reduce the checking of routine registrations, which would disperse with about 200 jobs.

So far 450 civil servants are on strike at the registry's 13 regional offices, but serious delays have occurred only at the Gloucester registry, where instead of the routine searches taking 48 hours they are now taking a week or more.

The Society of Civil and Public Servants have said that if the management redeploy staff the strike could spread to other regions.

The staff who have gone on strike have done so after being threatened with suspension without pay for refusing to cooperate with the new measures.

The Land Registry intends to increase its efficiency by saving jobs, but the Civil Service unions are arguing that the measures put an added responsibility on clerks and that errors are likely to increase.

Babies in private school queue

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

A startling increase in the demand for good private schools in London for four-year-olds means parents are having to register their children well before they are born.

Good preparatory schools in Kensington are full for years to come and are drawing up waiting lists for children who are now babies. Miss Jane Revell, headmistress of Falkner House, a boys' pre-prep school in Notting Hill which is registering babies only under three months old said: "For some schools mothers have to put their babies down two days after the pregnancy is confirmed."

The clamour for places at private London schools has also increased for the eight-year-olds range. Mr John Whittaker, head of Sussex House preparatory school in Cadogan Square, Chelsea, said: "We have got tremendous demand and it seems to have leapt suddenly in the last six months. We have many more children than we need for 1984."

The reasons given for the boom are various. First, it is concentrated in the central and more prosperous parts of London where there are few private schools and they are small, and it coincides with the

desire by parents who choose independent schooling to keep their children at home, at least until they are 13, for economic or other reasons.

It is believed that some parents are worried about state primary schools, particularly if they hope to send their children to good public schools demanding a respectable showing in the Common Entrance examination.

They are happy to pay the fees of at least £500 a term at pre-preparatory schools and to pay for extra coaching.

Miss Revell, whose school, Falkner House, feeds St Paul's preparatory school, Colet

Court, and Westminster Under School, said: "Parents go to enormous lengths to try to get their child into a good school. I have parents asking me why the four-year-olds are not doing homework."

A year ago parents could walk in off the street and register their children for Falkner House, a school for boys aged four to nine. Now the school is full until 1987 and has a waiting list of 40 babies a year.

Another possible reason for the increased demand is the rise in the birth rate among social classes one, two and three between 1979 and 1980.

Surgeons wait for heart-lung donor

By Alan Hamilton

Surgeons at Harefield Hospital in West London are standing by on call round the clock to perform Britain's first combined heart and lung transplant.

Their patient is Mr Lars Ljungberg, a journalist aged 32 from Falun in Sweden, who has been at Harefield for a month awaiting a donor. The hospital said yesterday that although Mr Ljungberg was seriously ill, his condition remained stable.

If a donor is found in time, the pioneering surgical team will be led by Mr Magdi Jacob, the Egyptian-born specialist who has conducted 77 heart transplants at Harefield. Past donors have usually been road accident victims.

The surgical team will have to move with great speed. Donor hearts remain usable outside the body for up to six hours, but lung tissues will survive for only about an hour and a half. The whole operation is expected to take six hours.

Mr Ljungberg is suffering from a thickening of the lungs, demanding immense effort by the heart to pump blood through them. He finds the slightest physical or mental exertion a tremendous effort.

Because Mr Ljungberg, who is married with three children, is a foreigner his operation will not be paid for by the National Health Service. The people of his home town have collected £15,000 to pay for his treatment, as well as providing a Swedish nurse.

Although no heart-lung trans-

Rifts over Sunday shopping

By Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

A flood of expected representations on the controversial question of removing restrictions on Sunday shop opening has started to build up at the Home Office, whose inquiry into the issue is expected to take until the middle of next year.

Sharp differences of opinion among shopkeepers are emerging, in addition to the confrontation between the more obvious antagonists such as the consumers' organizations favouring Sunday opening and the Lord's Day Observance Society with its heated defence of the traditional Sunday.

Five assessors have been appointed by the Home Office to ensure that a full spectrum of evidence is available by November 30, the closing date for representations. The appointment of a further assessor, representing the interests of local authorities, will be announced shortly.

The five appointed are: Lord Gallacher, representing large shops and multiple chains; Miss Mildred Head, for small shops; Mr John Flood, retail trade employees; Mr Maurice Healy, shoppers' interests; and Mr Bernard Thimont, the churches.

Lord Gallacher is a prominent figure in the Cooperative movement. Miss Head is a former National Chamber of Trade president. Mr Flood is deputy general secretary of the Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers. Mr Healy is policy division head at the National Consumer Council, and Mr Thimont is secretary of the Churches' Main Committee.

The union's representations, in which it emphasizes the high cost of Sunday opening, went to the Home Office at the weekend. But it would be willing to accept opening for up to four Sundays preceding Christmas, provided equivalent time off was given over Christmas or the New Year.

The Retail Consortium, which represents most shopkeepers, is still trying to hammer out a consistent Sunday opening policy.

The Asda grocery chain, part of the Associated Dairies Group, has been a strong advocate of Sunday opening but other grocery multiples are far from enthusiastic. Although there is more support for later opening hours on weekdays, there is lessening support for the idea of Sunday morning opening for the big grocers.

There is a strong lobby for Sunday opening from many companies involved in the do-it-yourself field, especially where such outlets are teamed with garden centres.

Most department stores oppose Sunday opening.

Peer says EEC should cut price of cereals

An immediate 25 per cent reduction in the EEC guaranteed prices for cereals was called for at the weekend by Lord Walton, the SDP peer. That should be followed by more modest reductions over four years until the price is no more than 10 per cent above the world market level (John Young writes).

Lord Walton is a member of the Lords committee on the European Communities, whose report recently urged the establishment of so-called guarantee thresholds to curb surplus production.

He told *The Times* that he and some of his colleagues on the committee thought the report did not go far enough, but that they were dissuaded from including their proposals for price reductions.

Those proposals state that the European Commission should set out the quantities of each grain commodity that the Community is likely to need in the ensuing years.

Motorway poses threat to the Green Belt

By John Young
Agriculture Correspondent

Increased traffic generated by the completion of the M25 London orbital motorway will create a planners' nightmare, according to Mr Lawrie Freeman, head of the commercial department of Humbers, the estate agents.

Writing in the latest issue of *Humbers Commentary*, he observes that the M25 has breached the Metropolitan Green Belt and, far from being the ultimate barrier to expansion, could result in more corridors of development along the "spokes" of other motorways, the M1, M2, M3, M4, M11, M20, M23 and M40.

Meanwhile, the local authority associations, the Civic Trust, the council for the Protection of Rural England, and the National Farmers Union meet today to express concern at the threat to the Green Belt posed by a relaxation of planning controls.

Sale room

Auction record for vitrine cabinet

By Hoon Mallalieu

In New York on Saturday an auction record of \$275,000 (£183,333) was set for a piece of twentieth century furniture. It was paid by a private collector for an elaborate jewel-mounted silver vitrine cabinet designed by Carl Otto Czeschka and Josef Hoffmann for the Wiener Werkstätte in 1908.

In spite of the lavish decoration of materials used including onyx, mother of pearl, ivory, enamel, opal and lapis lazuli and clusters of Baroque pearls it is an elegant piece and it was rightly seen as one of the outstanding works of the Vienna Art Exhibition in

that year (estimate \$150,000-\$250,000).

The two-day sale of art nouveau and art deco by Sotheby's, made a total of \$1,728,281 (£1,152,187) with 14 per cent bought in. A trompe-l'oeil painted wood secretary designed in about 1950 by Piero Fornasetti of Milan, which was decorated with "Pines" scenes of fanciful Roman architecture, made \$22,000 (£14,666) against an estimate of \$10,000 to \$15,000.

A New York sale of printed and manuscript items of North American interest held by Christie's on Friday produced

\$411,224 (£274,149) with every lot finding a buyer. About half of that total came from the collection formed by Lord Eccles. A first edition of Audubon and Bachman, *The Viviparous Quadrupeds of North America*, which was published in New York between 1845 and 1858, sold to a dealer from Pennsylvania for \$55,000 (£36,666), in spite of the lack of part of the text (estimate \$50,000 to \$60,000).

A manuscript document about the sale of a Buckinghamshire Manor, which is signed by Sir Francis Drake, sold to a New York dealer for \$15,400

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Korchnoi's complaint. Is there a remedy?



VIKTOR KORCHNOI
AGE 52.

ZOLTAN RIBLI
AGE 32.

GARRY KASPAROV
AGE 20.

VASSILY SMYSLOV
AGE 62.

There is a major source of irritation in Viktor Korchnoi's life.

He has twice suffered defeat at the hands of Anatoly Karpov, failing to seize the World Chess Champion's crown.

To have any hope of remedying his grievance, Mr. Korchnoi must first get through the World Chess Championship Semi-Finals, starting today at London's Great Eastern Hotel.

(It's Britain's most important chess tournament since the first World Championship was held here in 1851.)

Korchnoi is lined up for twelve nerve-racking games against the prodigiously gifted Garry Kasparov.

Meanwhile, the tension will also be mounting steadily between the veteran Vassily Smyslov and the formidable Zoltan Ribli.

The brains behind these battles of the mental giants are Acorn, manufacturers of the

BBC Microcomputer. Away from its increasing educational, domestic and business commitments, the BBC Micro is a particularly keen chess player.

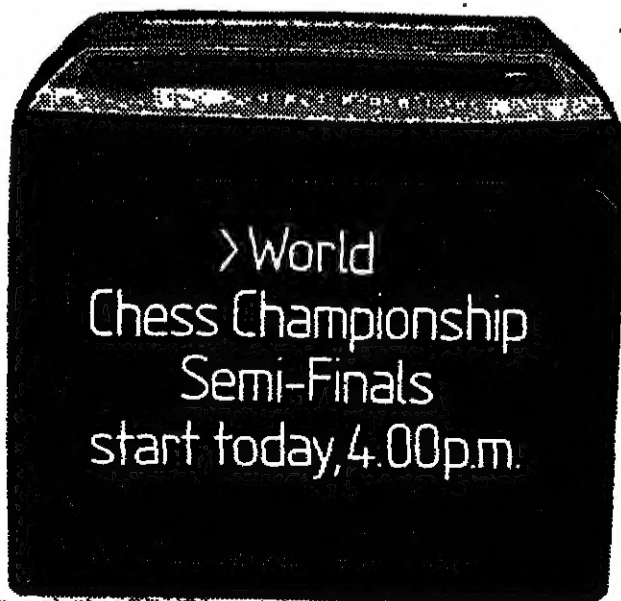
In fact, its interest in the game is such that it has computed each grandmaster's likelihood of getting through to next year's Final.

It reckons Mr. Kasparov's probability to be no less than 89%.

Mr. Ribli's probability is 60%, while Mr. Smyslov's is 40%.

Alas, the precocious £399 micro claims that Mr. Korchnoi's probability of pulling through is a slender 11%.

In the stark face of adversity, however, he should certainly be inspired to give a performance which leaves no room for complaint.



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US-Soviet tensions over arms and technology

Schmidt fails to prevent SPD from voting against missiles

From Michael Blyden, Bonn

In a momentous vote that will have far-reaching consequences for German politics and for the country's relations with its Nato allies, the opposition Social Democratic Party (SPD) as expected, overwhelmingly rejected at the weekend the deployment of new Nato missiles on German soil.

After two days of impassioned debate at a special congress in Cologne and despite a powerful appeal from Herr Helmut Schmidt, the former Chancellor, not to go back on their word, 400 of the delegates voted against deployment, with only 14 people, including Herr Schmidt and several former Ministers, defying the party executive's recommendation.

Herr Hans-Jochen Vogel, the parliamentary leader, said the 1979 Nato decision had not been respected by the Americans, who had not kept their promise to negotiate seriously at the Geneva arms talks.

Washington had not responded to Moscow's offer to reduce their SS20 arsenal to 140 missiles in return for Nato abandoning its deployment plans - though this would have been satisfactory for the West.

He said the Americans had ignored their European allies' desire for greater efforts at Geneva. For this Chancellor Kohl was in large measure to blame as he had not attempted to force Washington and Moscow to compromise.

Herr Willy Brandt, the party chairman, also clearly blamed the Americans and the "stubbornness" of those who thought the deployment of Pershing 2s

more important than the removal of SS20s. The SPD vote corresponded to the call by the House of Representatives for a nuclear freeze. The new missiles were against the interests of Europe and both German states, he declared with passion, to warm applause.

The party leaders recognize they cannot stop the missiles arriving or defeat the Government in the vital Bundestag debate on deployment that begins today. Indeed, the party gave no commitment to remove the missiles if returned to power, and reaffirmed its loyalty to Nato.

President Andropov wrote a new letter to Chancellor Kohl, a Chancellery spokesman said yesterday. He declined to give details, but one report said the Soviet leader had said Bonn must be prepared to "take the consequences" if new US missiles were stationed in West Germany.

● MOSCOW: Soviet officials say Western leaders and commentators "deceived themselves" into thinking the Soviet Union might make last minute concessions at the Geneva arms talks when in fact it had never intended to do so (Richard Owen writes).

Officials said there was no "split in the Kremlin" on arms control, as the Bonn Government had suggested, and said West German officials had "misread" the signs of a wishful thinking.

Last week Dr Kohl said he understood Moscow had softened its stand over the inclusion of British and French missiles in the INF (intermedi-

ate range) talks. But Marshal Dmitry Ustinov, the Soviet Defence Minister, said in *Pravda* on Saturday categorically that British and French missiles must be included in the Geneva talks. An reiterated Moscow's outright opposition to the deployment of cruise and Pershing.

Tass said Dr Kohl had "commented most sensationally about some mysterious 'signals' from Moscow."

The news agency added that there had been no such signals and would not be in the future.

The Russians have been gratified by the SPD vote against the Nato deployments, but are closely watching today's Bundestag debate and have little hope that Bonn's support for the deployments will be undermined.

WASHINGTON: The Central Intelligence Agency in a report to Congress has indicated that the cost of Soviet defence spending has grown more slowly since 1976 than in previous years. (Mohsin Ali writes).

The CIA in a new analysis of the Soviet economy, given to Congress on September 20, cut its previous estimate of the Soviet defence growth by more than half.

The report, released by Senator William Froxmire, a Democrat from Missouri on Friday, showed that Moscow continued to increase military outlays until 1976 by 4 to 5 per cent annually.

In perfect Alliance, page 10

neither the Americans, Russians, the present Bonn Government nor the fickleness of his party. He warned his party against isolating itself and of damaging German credibility with its allies by going back on its word.

● Bomb defused: An unexploded bomb was defused in front of an American company in Düsseldorf and another bomb damaged state police headquarters yesterday on the eve of a Bonn parliamentary debate on deployment of new US missiles in West Germany (AP reports).

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The news agency added that there had been no such signals and would not be in the future.

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The report, released by Senator William Froxmire, a Democrat from Missouri on Friday, showed that Moscow continued to increase military outlays until 1976 by 4 to 5 per cent annually.

In perfect Alliance, page 10

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● Bomb defused: An unexploded bomb was defused in front of an American company in Düsseldorf and another bomb damaged state police headquarters yesterday on the eve of a Bonn parliamentary debate on deployment of new US missiles in West Germany (AP reports).

President Andropov wrote a new letter to Chancellor Kohl, a Chancellery spokesman said yesterday. He declined to give details, but one report said the Soviet leader had said Bonn must be prepared to "take the consequences" if new US missiles were stationed in West Germany.

● MOSCOW: Soviet officials say Western leaders and commentators "deceived themselves" into thinking the Soviet Union might make last minute concessions at the Geneva arms talks when in fact it had never intended to do so (Richard Owen writes).

Officials said there was no "split in the Kremlin" on arms control, as the Bonn Government had suggested, and said West German officials had "misread" the signs of a wishful thinking.

Last week Dr Kohl said he understood Moscow had softened its stand over the inclusion of British and French missiles in the INF (intermedi-

ate range) talks. But Marshal Dmitry Ustinov, the Soviet Defence Minister, said in *Pravda* on Saturday categorically that British and French missiles must be included in the Geneva talks. An reiterated Moscow's outright opposition to the deployment of cruise and Pershing.

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Anniversary smile: The garlanded Queen, leaving Holy Trinity church, Secunderabad, yesterday, on her thirty-sixth wedding anniversary.

Roar of disapproval for Duke

From Michael Hamlyn, Kanha, Madhya Pradesh

It is the mating season at Kanha National Park and a pair of tigers were not pleased early yesterday morning to see the Duke of Edinburgh peering at them from the back of an elephant.

They showed their displeasure by snarling and walking briskly up and down in a jungle clearing. The Duke was in no danger, however. Tigers regard people on the back of an elephant as a part of the animal and they would hesitate to attack an elephant.

The early morning was cold and misty and the Duke turned and went off to look for more tigers. The elephant, Vandevi, or Forest Goddess, prodded and kicked by her mahout, lumbered back through the undergrowth to a convoy of Jeeps.

Then they tore along a dusty forest trail while the sun rose higher and skimmed off the mist rising from ponds and lakes. They found a tigress and one of her young, lying indolently in a bamboo clump.

As the visiting elephants circled their lair the tigers looked up with vague disinterest. They had no fear of the pachyderms. Gone are the days when the local maharaja could shoot 1,200 tigers in a short lifetime and practically wipe them out in that area.

These tigers live in a preserve sponsored in part by the World Wildlife Fund, of which the Duke is the international president. In the 350 square miles of the Kanha reserve, which is celebrating its fiftieth jubilee this year, there are 26,000 deer, antelope, bear and buffalo.

The park has also had rather big conservation success. Under its tall old trees shelter the magnificent *Barasingha* deer. The name is Hindi for 12 horns and the number of times on their antlers varies between six and 14.

In 1970 there were only 66 *barasinghas* in the world, all at Kanha. Today there are 464 and they are no longer on the verge of extinction.

Earlier, the Duke had piloted the Andover of the Queen's Flight from Hyderabad, where he and the Queen are spending part of their state visit to India, to Gonda, a wartime airstrip.

The jungle around Kanha is where Kipling stayed when he was writing the *Jungle Books* and the park authorities like to think that the original Sher Khan or Baloo may have stalked these hills.

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MPs change tune on constitution

From Our Own Correspondent Johannesburg

The anti-apartheid Progressive Federal Party (PFP), the official opposition in South Africa, has decided to take part in the new constitutional system which it urged its supporters to reject at the whites-only referendum on November 2. The constitution is likely to come into force in the second half of next year.

About 66 per cent of those who voted in the referendum including possibly a third of the PFP's traditional supporters, supported the new constitution, which would extend parliamentary rights to the mixed-race Coloured and Indian minorities, but still exclude the black-African majority.

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Pride at home, alarm abroad

From Douglas Tweedale, Buenos Aires

Argentina's claim that it can produce enriched uranium, used as a fuel for nuclear reactors and a key element in nuclear weapons, has been greeted here with pride and scepticism, but has caused alarm abroad.

In a press conference late on Friday, the head of Argentina's Atomic Energy Commission announced that his country has become the eighth in the world (after the United States, Soviet Union, Britain, China, France, Holland and West Germany) to achieve independence in all phases of the nuclear fuel cycle.

Vice-Admiral Carlos Castro Madero said scientists, working without foreign assistance at secret plants in the southern province of Rio Negro since 1978, have mastered the technology necessary to produce enriched uranium.

Newspapers greeted the news with banner headlines, and President-elect Señor Alfonsín emphasized that when he takes office on December 10, he will "exercise close control over all aspects of our nuclear programme to ensure that it is used only for peaceful aims."

Argentina has long been suspected of wanting to develop a nuclear weapon by the international community because of its refusal to ratify the Tlatelolco Treaty, which bans nuclear arms in Latin America.

The views of America's allies would be carefully considered before any resumption of arms sales to Argentina, she said on Channel 4's *Face the Press*.

technology was a national secret. The plant is expected to be in full production by 1985 and will produce 20-0/0 enriched fuel, (90-0/0 enriched uranium is needed for weapons-grade material).

Argentina's nuclear programme is considered the most advanced in Latin America.

UK arms for Chile, Page 7.

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Nine die as flooding brings chaos to Lisbon

Lisbon

Floodwaters "cut Lisbon off from the rest of Portugal over the weekend and caused severe damage in suburbs and towns within a 22-mile radius (Martha de la Cal writes). Nine people died and 11 more are missing. More than 1,000 were left homeless.

Torrential rain late on Saturday turned steep streets built on old watercourses into raging torrents, carrying cars and buses into rivers leading to the coast. The water cut deep trenches in streets, making them impassable.

International and suburban trains stopped, running just highways into the city were under water. Several bridges collapsed, leaving towns isolated. Much of Lisbon and many of the small towns were without drinking water and telephones.

Underground stations were submerged. The damage was greatest, however, in the poorer suburbs where several hundred thousand people live in illegally constructed buildings and wooden shacks without proper drainage. A great number of the badly built structures were washed away.

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British re to sell Chile alarms

From Nicholas Ashford

Administration reports that the sale of British-made surface missiles to Chile is a "guided missile" by the military Government.

United States fears that sophisticated weapons to General Pinochet's regime will be used to suppress the Chilean people's demands for democratic reform when it takes office in December 1985.

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D. A. Clark & E. S. Eaves 2004a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k, l, m, n, o, p, q, r, s, t, u, v, w, x, y, z

SPECTRUM

Curiosity and an acute observation of life have driven Muriel Spark to become one of our great novelists. Nicholas Shakespeare discovers that this curiosity once led her in a different direction, when, during the war, she was recruited by British Intelligence to work in a subversive "German" radio station

Suffering and the vital Spark

Muriel Spark was once asked by a friend what stopped them both from committing suicide like so many people they knew. "Curiosity," she replied. "We want to know what happens next." At 65 this quality shows no sign of deserting one of our greatest living novelists - one who grows more distinguished with her omission from each succeeding list of the Book Marketing Council.

She was in London last week to record a rare television interview having just completed a new novel. Fresh off the cross-Channel ferry after driving from her home in Italy, where she has lived since 1966, she was full of an incident at sea. A small, bird-like Scot, she has something of the sparrow in her movement and expression; something, sometimes, of the hawk.

"A message came over the intercom for the purser to meet a man from Special Branch. Of course, I was there before anyone else. I'm not a reporter, but I'm nosy. I wouldn't like not to know." The case for disturbance was "a very jolly black man who was later released." She shrugged, bit the end of her spectacles and smiled. "Obviously drunk."

Some 40 years ago, fresh off a troopship from Africa, where her marriage had gone sour, Muriel Spark was recruited for her inquiring mind by British Intelligence and sent to Woburn Abbey. "We were supposed to be a German radio station, broadcasting subversive material to their troops. We worked with German prisoners who had ratted - communists, aristocrats and boys who just wanted better rations. I used to take them for walks

and they would teach me German. The first word they made me learn was 'erotic'.

"Anyway, they were broadcasting for us as loyal Germans, telling how Britain was having to employ Italian interpreters because so many Italians had been captured on the Western Front. It was absolute nonsense. We were nowhere near the Western Front." Another report revealed how Hitler had had his pants burned off in the bomb attempt on his life. "It fascinated me because it's very much the way one writes novels. A bit of fact. A bit of truth."

Strangely enough, her career as a writer began with an article after the war for the literary magazine *Argentin*. "I was fascinated by the decorations in Renaissance paintings and did a feature on the Order of the Golden Fleece. Incredibly, the *Evening Standard* picked it up. Opening the paper one day I saw an article saying how good my piece was and I said maybe I can write." Her first full-length book was a study of Mary Shelley in 1951. "I was interested in Frankenstein, and it was the anniversary of her death. Now I think she's terribly dreary. I can identify more with the writer than the writer's widow."

Not until 1957, three years after becoming a Roman Catholic, did she publish her first novel. "At first I drew the line at novels. I felt they were a lazy way of writing poetry. Then Macmillan asked me if I would do one and Graham Greene gave me the money to do it." The result was *The Comforters*, named after "the comforters" in the Book of Job.

Sixteen novels later, Muriel Spark continues to think of herself as "a



Muriel Spark: I'm nosy. I wouldn't like not to know

going concern." She feels the world is newly created every day; each day she looks at it in the same dry-eyed way. "I have a great desire to make people smile - not laugh, but smile. Laughter is too aggressive. People bare their teeth." In 26 years her method of writing, like what she writes about, has changed little. "I get sent exercise books by the gross from a place in Edinburgh, just like I had as a schoolgirl - with 72 pages and a spring spine."

"I wait until I have a kind of caterpillar curled up in my mind. I write the title, my name and Chapter One. Then I start. I like to have the title, which I repeat through the book like a refrain. The rest I make up as I go along." Did the "caterpillar" curl around a character or a theme?

"Mainly a theme. If a character, it must be someone indomitable who will not change whatever circumstances you put in their way. It has to be a person of sufficient importance so one cares about their tragedy. Art is not so democratic. One really doesn't care about people who haven't enough magnitude - by that I mean spiritual magnitude."

How much were her characters drawn from herself? "Flaubert said: 'Madame Bovary, c'est moi.' I know what he means. It's a potentiality rather than oneself one recognizes in them, but they have to be a bit of you or you wouldn't know what you were talking about." Did she have a favourite novel? "The one I've just finished. It's called *The Only Problem*. To my mind it's my most important."

I'd be quite happy if it was the last book I lived to write."

The Only Problem, published next year, is a modern sexual and theological comedy which asks how a benevolent creator can permit the unspeakable suffering of this world. Set in France, it centres on a rich Canadian who is writing a monograph on the Book of Job, and his beautiful, unpredictable wife who leaves him over the theft of some chocolates. "The Only Problem" is suffering. Life would be very dull without suffering. Life is suffering. The novel completes a fascination with the Book of Job which dates from the early 1950s when she attempted a treatise on the subject. "I don't know how it got into the Bible because God comes out so badly."

Her own position in the Catholic Church is similarly unorthodox. "The

'The church is less important than faith... I'm anticlerical'

Church is less important than faith", she emphasises. "It's a kind of bank that keeps the faith from one generation to another. I hate sermons - all our questions to God are absolutely ridiculous, so how can we expect answers. I'm also very anticlerical." It is a dislike compounded by her experience on the International Commission of English in the Liturgy.

"We're a group of writers who are consulted on the Liturgy's translation into English. We're there as stooges to soothe the conscience of priests. I think they'll take no notice whatever of my objection to prayers that tell God what he's like. Oh God thou art merciful - as if God didn't know."

Muriel Spark describes her religion as "a condition, a sort of brainwashing". Her conversion - "to join the main branch" - was, typically, an intellectual one. "My mother's criticism of me was that my head ruled my heart." Had her heart suffered as a result? "I have a calling. Writing is a thing I have to do. Not many men will suffer for that and people do come before books, so it's best not to have people in your life. I'm willing to subordinate an enormous amount for my work. They say sacrifice, but to sacrifice for a pleasure makes it more pleasurable. If you took away the writer from me, I believe I would not exist at all."

Is her contentment then to lay down the pen with her latest novel not a form of suicide? She smiles once more. A spectacle and returns to her mouth. "I don't know, I might be quite wrong. In fact I've already thought of a title for the next one."

Muriel Spark is interviewed by Frank Delaney on BBC2 tonight at 10.15.

FINDINGS

A series reporting on research: Island ecology

Dwindling heritage

"The islands of the Pacific and East Indies made an enormous and fateful impact on the minds of Charles Darwin and Alfred Wallace, the fathers of evolutionary theory". M. L. Gorman of the University of Aberdeen wrote several years ago. "Since then island floras and faunas have continued to play a central role in the development of evolutionary and, more recently, ecological thought."

Quite apart from the fascination of the islands themselves, the study of island ecology acquires a certain urgency as man's progressive destruction of habitats increases the need for natural reserves, which by definition can only exist as "islands in an inhospitable sea of man-modified vegetation or urban sprawl".

Biologists over the years have inevitably changed the emphasis of their speciality from descriptive to predictive, with obvious implications for reserve management for non-specialists, however, it seems likely that the romance of the islands and the geo-whizzery surrounding the island species will continue to be of paramount interest.

'Vampire' birds

Surely one of the most bizarre adaptations ever recorded on an island (or anywhere else) is the behaviour of the "vampire finches" of Wolf Island, about 80 miles north-west of the main Galapagos group. Although the apparently unique blood-drinking habits of the sharp-beaked ground finch *Geospiza difficilis septentrionalis* had been known since 1964, until last November its activities had never been filmed.

An account of a 12-day filming expedition to the island appears in the current issue of *Noticias de Galapagos*, journal of the Charles Darwin Foundation for the Galapagos Isles. Friedemann and Heidi Köster found their first "vampires" at work on the third day: "Riding on the lower back of a booby and clinging to the large flight feathers of its folded wings, the finch repeatedly buries its beak deep into the formerly white feathers of the 'elbow', now distinctly marked red by extruding blood. Watching from within a couple of yards, we can clearly see the blood being sucked into the closed beak of the finch as if through a drinking straw."

The finches, the authors discovered later, were also adept at stealing and eating the eggs of other species, working in teams to push the egg away from the nest. Once the egg had broken, however, the team spirit would collapse in a "feeding frenzy".

The authors were surprised that most of the boobies did not react more vigorously against the finches, although when larger

chicks were attacked it was "saddening to see how these comparatively large birds try to get rid of their tormentors by desperately walking backwards and forwards across the nesting area, relentlessly followed by a group of sharp-billed finches pecking at their bloody tails".

Courting pairs in particular, they noted, seemed all too oblivious to "the vampires riding on their backs, pecking and drawing blood from the feather quills". Love conquers all, even in an evolutionary crucible.

Survival lottery

Sometimes it is the sheerest coincidence that determines whether islands, and the creatures unique to them, survive. Aldabra, most distant island of the Seychelles and famed for its giant tortoises, is a perfect example. It is one of the largest elevated atolls in the world, but is unique in its lack of phosphorous deposits.

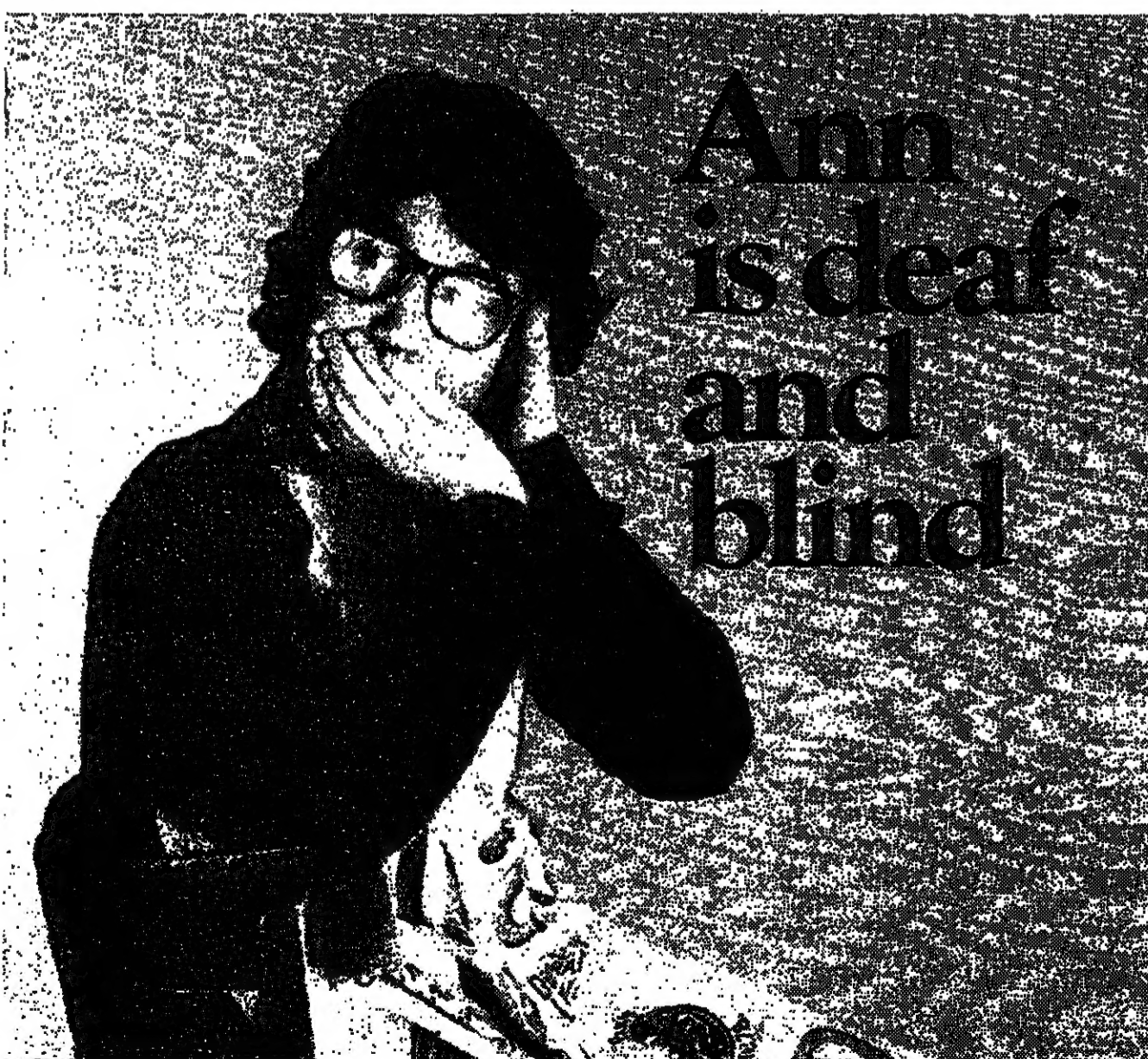
In a recent issue of *AMBIO*, published by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, Dr David Stoddart and George Savvy note that Aldabra has been spared the mining industries that have disfigured the nearby islands of Nauru, Banaba and Makatea because most of its vast colonies of seabirds nest in unusual concentrations of mangroves around the lagoon margins, so that their guano is flushed away by the sea.

Culling overkill

Australia, an island the size of a continent, is naturally a paradise for any island ecologist. Of its most famous marsupials, the kangaroo and wallaby, there are 57 species throughout Oceania. The red, eastern grey and western grey kangaroos are the subjects of controversy at the moment because confusion over culling policies has raised fears of "a free-for-all overkill", in the words of the World Wildlife Fund.

Aerial surveys are in progress in an attempt to compile more reliable population data; in the meantime, "cases of inhumane killing methods have been reported and bitterly criticized. The state organizations involved are not insensitive to the humane issues but must also take account of the principle of sustainable utilization of markable wildlife, a principle endorsed by the World Conservation Strategy". WWF notes, Kangaroo meat and hides and other products are big business and exports, particularly to the United States, are thriving.

Tony Samstag



The RNID cares for her and others similarly handicapped in their new Deaf/Blind centre in Bath. The whole of her life will require constant loving care and supervision but this costs a lot of money.

The RNID also promotes medical research and provides extensive scientific, technical, educational, welfare and information services. Please help us all you can.

RNID. The Royal National Institute for the Deaf.

Please send what you can afford to RNID, Room DB, 105 Gower Street, London WC1E 6AH. For details telephone 01-387 8033.

moreover...
Miles Kington

Putting his stamp on history

People who have very important jobs indeed

No 15: A man who fixes postage stamps for new countries

Most observers were taken by surprise when the Turkish half of Cyprus suddenly declared independence, not so Sterling Gubbins, the postage stamp man, who had been out there for six days in advance.

"You sort of get a nose for these things after a while", he says. "I can smell a new, emerging country up to three months in advance of most people, and I slip out there to get in touch with the new government. Often they don't realize just how important stamps are. These newly created countries are usually obsessed with getting their own nuclear deterrent or joining the EEC, when their first priority should always be getting a decent set of stamps out. Partly so they can write to each other, but mostly to get some cash. Stamps are a big earner from day one."

New governments are often very good at making electronic devices or living rough in the bush, but have very little experience of designing and issuing a set of stamps. That's where Gubbins comes in. He can tell them what colours to use, what sort of pictures to put on the front and how to put perforated holes in sheets of paper, also the name of a quick and cheap printer in SE14.

"You'd be surprised how many of them only want to put their own picture on stamps, and it takes a while to persuade them that a portrait series of security Castro lookalikes coming out of the bush isn't going to sell to the postmen. This lot in north Cyprus are brighter than average, though - after all, they've already been running the place for quite a while - and I've persuaded them to go in for a lucrative anniversary issue."

Anniversary issues are big money in the stamp world, especially as you are not restricted to events in your own country. It's quite common to find small islands in the Pacific commemorating something like Kipling's birth, or the invention of the pressure cooker.

"I tried to persuade the Turks to do an issue on Dylan Thomas's thirtieth anniversary, but they reckoned that Radio 4 had already done it to death. Besides, they had a look at his poetry and couldn't make head or tail of it, and between you and me I'm not surprised. Anyway, we were in a bit of an impasse situation until it turned out that half the new cabinet were jazz fans, so now we're doing a set of Django Reinhardt stamps, as he died just over 30 years ago. It's going to look very nice, I think, especially as some of the stamps have got the young Stephanie Crappell on, and his albums still sell very well."

Printing has been held up because no final decision has been taken on what the new country should be called. Sterling Gubbins firmly squashed a proposal to call it Sitcom, which is apparently a local dialect word for freedom. It's for advice like that that his presence is so widely valued.

"Sometimes when the people are very inexperienced they get me in on everything. I went out to one of these African countries not so long ago just to do the stamps and ended up being offered the post of foreign secretary. Very nice, but of course I had to refuse, as you've got to remain impartial in the stamp world. I believe the post went eventually to a bloke who had only come out to help them to get into the World Cup. Half the time they only go independent in order to get into the World Cup anyway. That and the Miss World Contest and the Eurovision Song Contest, if they're near enough to Europe."

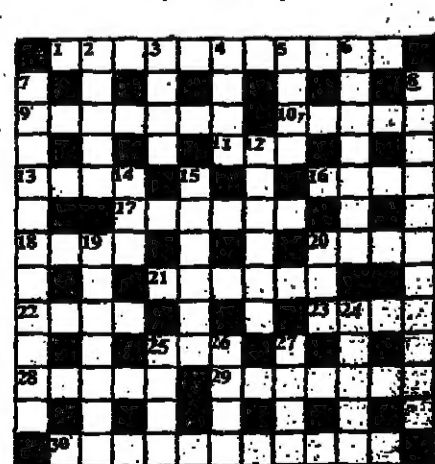
And which bit of the world is going independent next?

"That would be telling, wouldn't it? Let's just say it's not a million miles from the bit of Afghanistan that Russia can't reach. Meanwhile, I'm hoping to land the big Hongkong contract."

Meaning?

"The big closing down, everything-must-go issue, old boy."

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 207)



ACROSS

- 1 Cartoon cat and mouse (3,3,5)
- 9 Greenland inhabitants (7)
- 10 Avid (5)
- 11 Go brown (3)
- 13 Payment edge (4)
- 14 Girl friend (4)
- 17 Prisoner (6)
- 18 Failed to win (4)
- 20 Fake (4)
- 21 Ill-tempered woman (6)
- 22 Rigid circular band (4)
- 23 Benefit (4)
- 25 Prepare (3)
- 26 Black African (5)
- 29 Illness (7)
- 30 Roughcast (11)

DOWN

- 2 Uncultivated Australian (5)
- 3 Summit (4)
- 4 Perform (4)
- 5 Churchill's Favourite Secretary (5)
- 6 Mischievous (7)
- 7 Base above (11)
- 8 Prevalent (11)
- 12 Real (6)
- 14 Small piece (3)
- 15 Referee (6)
- 19 Temporary substitute (7)
- 20 Weep (3)
- 24 Fortunes (5)
- 25 Not hard (4)
- 26 Molek (4)
- 27 Walk heavily (4)

Solution to Saturday's prize concise will appear on Saturday. Recommended dictionary is the New Collins Concise

سكزا من الأصل

MODERN TIMES



A sideways look at the British way of life

HANDBAGS by Robin Young

An American woman who saw *The Importance of Being Earnest* at the National Theatre was delighted, and at dinner the next night enthused: "There is this marvellous moment, just so funny, when the old lady says: 'A purse, Mr Worthing? A purse?'"

Her fellow guests studied their dinner plates in silent embarrassment. "Oh, dear," she exclaimed. "Did I get it wrong? What should it be? A pocket-book?"

As Oscar Wilde and Lady Bracknell knew, there is something intimate and personal about a handbag which makes the discovery of a founding in one peculiarly comic and outrageous. Handbags

remain a source of intense curiosity and speculation. Who has not wondered whether the Queen really carries anything in hers, or what Margaret Thatcher's elegant navy blue model conceals?

In fashionable circles everyone wonders why the Princess of Wales, so archetypically Sloane Rangerish in every other way, eschews the shoulder bag and insists upon filling her armpit or her trailing hand with an underarm pochette.

Princess Margaret, at an informal buffet dinner party among friends, was once observed to set her evening bag on the floor beside her chair. But when she rose to approach the buffet and replenish her plate she carefully picked up the bag and carried it with her. This was instantly diagnosed as touching evidence of her underlying insecurity.

No matter how you handle it, your bag is apt to give you away. It is no coincidence that people say, when anxious to dissociate themselves from some particular style or taste, "it's not my bag". To do otherwise, they feel, would leave them open to ridicule... but then a "ridicule" (alternatively known as "reticule") was itself a bag at the end of the eighteenth century.

Gaelic etymologists can prove a connexion between the Scotsman's "sporrán", a seed sack, and hence the scrotum. When bags first became

fashionable, supplanting girdle pouches, one of the earliest ways of referring to them was, primly, as "indispensables".

Gladstone, of course, gave his name to a bag, and politicians, wont to be derided as carpetbaggers, have retained some idea of the part a bag can play in projecting the image. In her years as consumer affairs minister, Mrs. Sally Oppenheim made no shrewd move to ingratiate herself with the consumer movement than arriving at the National Consumer Congress carrying her speech in a grocers' plastic carrier.

As an accessory a handbag may seem to lack the versatility of, say, clothes, hairstyles or jewelry as a medium of personal expression. It is hard to know whether to blame manufacturers or customers for this.

The bucket bag was the 1950s, the shoulder bag swung with the 1960s, while the 1970s saw the proliferation of softbags, airline bags, canvas totes and other people's fashionable initials. Our own decade has provided nothing more distinctive than a roll-shaped sac.

There was a time when to have asked to see inside a lady's handbag would have been tantamount to rifling her drawers. In 1974 Bryan

Forbes, the film director, struck a blow for men's lib, refusing to have his bag searched if women's were exempt.

Nowadays airport staff X-ray your bag regardless of sex and display the contents on a screen for any fellow-passenger to see. Every doorman, store detective and cloakroom attendant reserves the right to delve deep among your crumpled Kleenexes, screwed-up sweetwrappers and lost laundry lists.

Bad enough to be told that we are what we eat. How much worse to think of ourselves in terms of the mini-rubbish tip we carry around.

I heard for example of the highly paid woman publishing executive whose handbag is half-filled with empty peanut shells. Alas, she fled the country before I could debug her for public exposure. A sentimental woman, I am told, carried a quarter of her wedding cake around for years, thinking it would symbolically crumble at her husband's first infidelity.

The bits and bobs in the bottom of the bag may, after all, be a fuller reflection of the true you, than what you see in the vanity mirror. My thanks, then, to the people who allowed me to pry among their personal possessions to show you.

Penny Perick

How the other half lives



Although, between the time I was divorced and the time, four years later, that I married again, I headed a one-parent family, I never considered myself to be a social problem. According to the conventional wisdom, however, that is just what I was, so I found it very cheering to read Penny Letts' book, *Double Struggle - Sex Discrimination and One-parent Families* which starts off by stating briskly that one-parent families are "members of an existing and legitimate family form who are particularly vulnerable to social and economic pressures". Quite so.

Nevertheless, single parents are made to feel that the problem resides in them for churlishly refusing to be one half of a parental pair. The founder of a new organization for divorced mothers called the Butterfly Group recently painted a dreadful picture of post-divorce life - your entire circle of friends vanishing into thin air and the only sound at night "the crying of uprooted children".

would certainly not advocate anyone becoming a divorced parent just for the heck of it but, having been one myself, I know that it wasn't always that bad. Not as bad as being a fat, desperate fifteen year old. Not as bad as struggling through the last years of a dying marriage (I think I hear a word of agreement from my ex-husband at this point).

Most single mothers find it hard to get out to work when there's no husband around to provide a back-up service - share the school run, deal with a pesky boiler, listen to what a vile, stinking day they had.

This was probably why Penny Letts found that lone mothers, as a group, are less likely to be in paid employment than partnered mothers. On the other hand, when single and divorced mothers can conjure up enough stamina and self-confidence to get themselves a job, they usually do rather well at it. A cynical American headhunter I know says that, given half a chance, he'd recommend all his clients to take on divorced women - "they're so grateful". They are, also, unlike working wives, only pulled in two directions: job/children, rather than job/children/husband. Divorced and single mothers really need to work, not just for financial survival but to build a new life for themselves once that fickle circle of friends has moved on. There aren't that many advantages in being the sole breadwinner in a one-income family but one of them is that you are regarded as a "serious" worker, one who is really committed to her job. Of course a working wife may be just as committed, but as long as her husband gets a salary cheque it is assumed that she will unrelentingly pack in her job the next time her husband complains that his handkerchiefs are inadequately ironed.

As to those crying and uprooted children that so disturb the Butterfly Group founder, it is reassuring to learn that research carried out by the National Council for One Parent Families found that: "There is no evidence at all to show that a child being brought up by a lone parent is less able to grow up into a whole person than one from a two-parent family."

I suspect this research may soon be irrelevant since an increasing number of children now come from two-parent, two-home families. Ex-husbands childmind for entire weekends so that ex-wives can get on with their Open University course, ex-wives, brimming over with sweet reason, agree to attend the Christmas play in return for being left off sports day. Children finding themselves in these particular circumstances may not feel uprooted but they can get very spoiled. Two rooms in two different parental homes in two to smear Arflex and Playdough, two parents consumed with guilt and anxiety and making up for it with a cornucopia of Sindy dolls and Lego and front circle seats for The Jungle Book. Not an ideal situation for a child to cope with but better than one where one parent disappears completely or, indeed, one where two parents decide to stay married "for the sake of the children".

Double Struggle by Penny Letts is published by the National Council for One Parent Families, price £2.95.

Bags of personality

SCORING POINTS

Carl Davis, composer-conductor of the score for Abel Gance's *Napoleon*, who will perform his scores for *Broken Blossoms* and *The Wind* at the London Film Festival on December 1, 2 and 3.

"I got my bags about 10 years ago from a leather-working craftsman's shop in Webbs Road, Clapham. I bought the small one first, then I saw the large one that had been made to measure for a writer who decided he did not want it. I leapt at it because it was big enough to carry musical scores. We have been inseparable ever since, and though I had them long before everyone else started carrying men's handbags, my shoulder bags have not needed any repair."

Inventory This is just an everyday bag, but it does show I have quite a bit of leather. I have a passport case, a folder for flexible friends, a cheque book, a large bag. This carries the "professional conductor's kit. A towel to mop up after my enthusiastic and energetic efforts. A Keweenaw red pinning - I make one to the conductor's kit. A Mum Quack Dry deodorant. Four clean shirts. Spare spectacles, which I always carry



since I once knocked my glasses off with my baton. I have a book called "The Dead Bag" which I bought 15 years ago at Way in and always wear for *Napoleon*. I have a book called "The Dead Bag" which I bought 15 years ago at Way in and always wear for *Napoleon*. I have a book called "The Dead Bag" which I bought 15 years ago at Way in and always wear for *Napoleon*.



CLUTCH OF CHAOS

Rachel Waterhouse, chairman of Consumers' Association.

"I have three bags which

Inventory Most important is the diary, which I would be lost without. I have a separate address and telephone book because the one I had, which I could transfer from diary to diary year after year, fell apart. I have a small notebook from France and has acquired paper, which recognizes that we are numerate as well as literate, and which you can never get here. I have a book of poems, a book of keys to the Metro I bought in France,

all look much the same except that one is black, one is blue and one is brown. This is my blue one, and I honestly cannot remember where I got it, though it was probably in Birmingham. It is leather-lined, but I think quite a cheap model. I do often feel I would like a nippy

little shoulder-bag, but I can never keep them on my shoulder, which must mean there's something wrong with me. If I had a more compartmentalized bag I'd lose everything. Can an organizer-bag help a disorganized person? That's what I ask, but I have never tried it.

FOUR IN HAND

Penelope Keith, star on television of *Sweet Sixteen* and *Hay Fever* at the Queen's Theatre.

"I had a fetish for handbags, and used to buy one whenever I was feeling nervous. I have not done that for a wee while now, but I suppose I still have 10 or 15, four or five of which would be biggies, and three or four of which I use regularly. I got this one, which has been rather well-favoured, in Brighton two or three years ago. Helen Walker, the million-aire businesswoman I play in *Sweet Sixteen*, has a Gucci bag because I thought that would be right for her. Now I have decided that I would like one myself - perhaps for Christmas."

Inventory Florax - that's my latest toy. With an ordinary address book you never have enough B's or S's, but with this you just flip in extra pages. I have a book from Coutts and Co, because their statement gives you an absolute record for the taxman. Also they were track coats. My make-up case is a lot of free samples, which I love, odd lipsticks, and various eye make-ups, but mostly I use Lancôme. Powder compact is a present - rather handsome - and the other mirror is another free offer - from Clinique. I have a calendar from America. I mail vanish - I only



have it for my part in *Hay Fever* - it is Christian Dior J'adore Red which matches my second act dress. I have a hair spray, which works with butane gas, is very useful after wearing a wig. Box of hairpins. Two hair ties. Two more lipsticks. An ordinary ball point. Some letters. Cards from well-wishers. I have a book which I think is even better than Vitamin C for keeping away colds. I have an Elizabeth Shaw mini (probably from a restaurant). A two Polo mugs (one cracked). A small bar of St Michael's chocolate, with mocha filling, for the journey back in the car. It is best given to me last night for the day - I should think he'll eat it in two seconds.

LITTLE AND LARGE

Jane Asher, actress, whose second book, *Jane Asher's Fancy Dress*, has just been published by Pelham Books.

"I always have fairly large bags. I can't imagine, you see, how people manage with the tiny little bags. I can't cope without a shoulder-bag, which I can tip on when I am carrying children. I have a dozen bags, and really use about four, mostly with two side-pockets though I would prefer none. I find handbags difficult to buy but I like this one because the navy blue is a good colour, I have enough useful room, and the zip is quite easy. The label has come off inside - it's from Shura in King's Road. I have had it needed twice at instant-repair places, which I liked it over when the metal things holding the trap went. It's time I got another one really."

Inventory I should think my sister gave me my make-up case. She needs sachets. I have a powder compact. Max Factor eye shadow by Guerlain - I hardly use it. This is one they gave me for my 15th birthday. I have a box of Germaine Monteil blusher, and a box of Vaseline because I use it and don't usually wear lipstick. I have a box of Vaseline because I use it and don't usually wear lipstick. I have a box of Vaseline because I use it and don't usually wear lipstick.



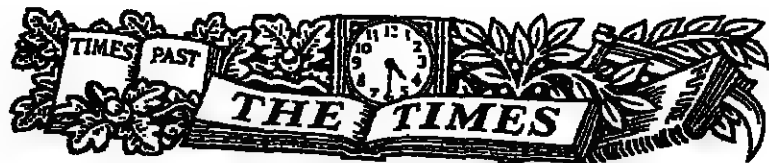
Toasted Almond. I must have bought it on my way to a photo session. I have a Maybelline - only for photographs. An eyeliner brush - which is totally useless because I do not have any cake liner in my bag. Two wintery boards. A purse. A money order card. A Wildlife Fund raffle ticket. An invoice for Gerald. Katie has drawn on it. I should benefit to collect from the post office. A playing-in-book, and a cheque to pay in World Billa. A forgotten cleaning ticket. An old shopping list. Five matches. A rescued from Alexander for Katie. A plastic letter O - I think Alexander must have put that in. A special little card and notes

MOVING WORDS

Janet Street-Porter, television personality and presenter of *After Midnight*.

"I want you to realize that as a professional woman I do not just have a handbag. I have three briefcases as well, because I have to have something

Inventory @swimsuit - I am a day member at Grosvenor House and go for a swim anytime I am passing Whitehouse - I can get the wrong show on it. @Flores loose-lens system - all the ladies I know use them. @ideas book - lots of scribbles. @a nice letter @the daily digest of press clippings about television. @petty cash book. @sunglasses which I carry at the year round, though with my teeth they are no disguise. I have eight pairs of glasses, and two pairs of sunglasses. @kangaroo-shaped make-up pouch, gift from a film producer. @make-up from Coty. @a book - lots of scribbles. @a nice letter @the daily digest of press clippings about television. @petty cash book. @sunglasses which I carry at the year round, though with my teeth they are no disguise. 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THE WAY OF THE CROSS

The enthronement of an Archbishop of York is an occasion of consequence in the Church of England. As Dr John Habgood said in his sermon it is a great act of worship. It expresses in words and ritual - and not least (by no means least) in music - something of the glory of God. It is a celebration. Indeed all the panoply and procedure of the affair, signified to some extent by the presence in the congregation of the Prime Minister, and by the all embracing antiquity and beauty of York Minster, in which the service was held, testify to the centrality of Anglicanism in the culture and history of England.

Dr Habgood said that it is a reassertion of public faith. Public faith according to the new Archbishop, is about the foundations. That is a questionable emphasis to lay at the start of his Archbishopric. In a moment the believer is in a numbers game - of which some Christian denominations are much guiltier than others - in which religious affiliation is validated simply by the fact that so many others seem to be of the same persuasion, as though one's inner experience needs outward corroboration.

Public faith? Can that really have been the key message of the new Archbishop? It is true he went on to disavow any intention of a "mere puffing up of Christian self-importance." There must be no triumphalism, for sure. And yet. And yet. What can public faith be other than an expression of faith in our institutions, in the cohesion of a society bound by a common tradition and some continuity in its sense of values? In fact, can it be more than an essentially collective emotion in which individuals, be they members of the congregation, sidesmen, choristers or mere onlookers, listeners, and fellow celebrants, in the great wide Anglican communion, are swept up in a seductive ritual and public act of devotion which in all truth cannot be presented as the sure foundation of any kind of true religious faith?

"We don't want just to be individuals. We want to belong to a society which helps us to be what, at our deepest and best, we know we ought to be," said Dr Habgood. Society, in other words, is to be Dr Habgood's foundation for our faith. The judgment of others is not in itself an absolute standard of value. It is a pointer, but it must be the individual through reflection, through self-searching, who reaches the ultimate ethical decision. The moral criterion is self-consciousness. Was it not Peter whom Christ made the rock and foundation of his Church - Peter, who lacked self-control and was fickle in character and hardly exemplary by society's contemporary norms? Does that not suggest that the true foundation must be the individual who is conscious of the collisions within him, rather than somebody who is cast

permanently as the protagonist of good? Every individual needs renewal from those inner conflicts, but not by pressing them upon his neighbours under the cloak of Christian love, or a sense of social responsibility, or any other collectivist euphemism which merely conceals an unconscious urge to personal power. In planting his emphasis so firmly in the public dimension of faith, at the expense of the essential privacy and uniqueness of religious experience, Dr Habgood was only reflecting the unfortunate collective tendencies which have taken hold of so much contemporary religious activity from the razzmatazz of papal tours down to the involvement of priests of all denominations in all kinds of political and social pressure groups.

The injunction is not to love thy neighbour. It is to love thy neighbour as thyself. To do that you have to know yourself and be conscious of life's eternal paradoxes which ebb and flow within the individual's spirit. To elevate community religion above man's individual struggle to know and love himself and through that self awareness to know and love his neighbour is achieved only by the suppression of those paradoxes.

It is from that suppression that Christendom, for all its professions of good intent, has been a history of schism, of religious wars, of the burning of heretics, of anathemas and iconoclasm. "I am come not to bring peace, but a sword," said Christ. How wildly has organized religion in His name turned that statement into a territorial and doctrinal battlefield rather than a search for ultimate unity based on the recognition of tolerable diversity in man's individual spirit and through him to the diversity of each community. How ironic that Christian missionaries fanned out to preach the Gospel of love to heathens while leaving so many spiritual heathens behind them in Europe.

So long as religion is only public faith and outward form men will fight to codify it. They will rise up to correct it. As Dr Habgood said in his sermon, with approval, they must forever be building and forever pulling down. In those circumstances the religious function will not be experienced within our souls, and nothing of importance will have happened to the spirit. Religious experience is absolute and unique. It cannot be disputed. It cannot be codified or collectivized. Today's Christians should therefore no longer cling obstinately to a one-sided credo, ignoring the many schisms of their Church and its contradictions and the attempts to impose dogmatic solutions on matters which are and must remain mysteries of the soul.

Conventional religious education imposes artificial limits on the idea of Christianity. It seeks to specify something which can only be unspecific. The

eternal symbols which have helped man's acceptance of something greater than himself are as old as mankind. They have been translated by Christian ritual into a moment of revelation which, in Christian teaching, suggests that nothing went before. It is as though a cathedral has been built over a pagan temple without the congregation knowing or caring that the pagan temple is still there underneath them. If the mystery is absolute it follows that ritual only helps if it assists mankind to accept the mystery as ineffable. It should help the individual submit to the irrational facts of religious experience. How can they be codified and dogmatized and remain irrational?

It is not therefore a public creed, however impressive, however inspiring, which can lay the foundations for the freedom and autonomy of an individual but that individual's knowledge and awareness of an intensely personal experience which owes nothing to the world of reason or fashion or ritual or society. To try to educate individuals to believe in religion is understandable, but it causes ultimate risks in creating a readiness to believe anything or everything that they do not understand for themselves; and thus as easily and as quickly to disbelieve.

Christians today have to accept that their Church and its public manifestations of faith live in the shadow of 400 years of splits. There is no future in every denomination insisting on its own doctrinal standpoint while hiding behind the Gospel of brotherly love and Christian unity. The only doctrine is that there is a God expressed in many forms, through many languages and symbolised in many rituals. All of them are true. That is no more contradictory than the contradictions of Tertullian: "and the Son of God is dead, which is to be believed because it is absurd. And buried. He rose again, which is certain because it is impossible". No rational set of precepts can be built solely on those paradoxes.

The great world religions of which Judaism, Christianity and Islam all spring from a single source, but also Buddhism, have in their own ways accorded man a central place in the ultimate scheme of things. The foundation of that scheme is the spirit. The rites emphasise spiritual renewal, born of the struggle between the opposites of good and evil. With great respect to the new Archbishop it is not a question of anyone not wanting to be "just an individual" in this struggle, preferring the protection of society. We are and will remain individuals. We cannot be otherwise. The spirit of man is not some social endowment. It rages within each individual where the God of love is also the God of war; where light and darkness alternate and intermingle for ever. That is the divine conflict within us. That is the way of the Cross.

Flaws in reform of Oxford entry

From the Chairman of the Headmasters' Conference

Sir, It is the ambition of many of the most intelligent sixth formers in the country to win a place at Oxford or Cambridge. The Dover committee's reforms at Oxford are presumably designed to spread this still more widely.

In so far as they simplify the entrance procedure, they will do so. The amendments by which colleges may set their own written tests as part of their interviews, and may express preferences for the E or the N mode of entry, not just college by college but subject by subject, make one wonder how successful they will prove to be.

Whatever has been achieved is at the expense of sixth-form education as a whole. Because of their pre-eminence, Oxford and Cambridge set standards and influence attitudes. Now Oxford is only to examine sixth formers more than six months before they take their A levels.

It seems a topsy-turvy method of favour. Academically it will favour the early developers, notoriously not always those who prove the soundest or most tenacious scholars in the long run. Socially, it will handicap those who, deprived of a good start at home, are only gradually discovering in sixth forms or sixth-form colleges the excitement of intellectual exploration.

It is also the method most likely to damage the sixth-form curriculum. Just when there are hopes of enabling gifted sixth formers to develop their talents more widely, and so equipping them to play their leading role in society more effectively, Oxford, examining earlier, encourages earlier specialisation.

The non-examined method of entry may appear the obvious answer. But there is merit in separate examining by Oxford and Cambridge, and we must hope that a solution may soon be found which is more beneficial to our best students and more closely linked to the national curriculum which they follow.

Yours faithfully,
ROGER ELLIS, Chairman,
The Headmasters' Conference,
Marlborough College,
Marlborough,
Wiltshire.
November 17.

From the Headmaster of Shrewsbury School

Sir, If Oxford University's decision to abandon the seventh-term entry examination has been taken because the present system is held to be unfair to some candidates then, on the ground of fairness to all university candidates and to the other universities, should it not now give up its special entrance examination altogether?

Every other British university apart from Cambridge has to select its candidates without recourse to a special exam with results that seem no better and no worse than those of "Oxbridge". An increasing number of boys and girls who want to try for a place at Oxford will in practice have to sit a highly competitive examination, with all the special preparation this involves, some six or seven months before they take their A levels. This appears to many of us to be putting the dubious special status of the Oxford exam before the best interests of the candidates and of the university entry system as a whole.

Yours faithfully,
S. J. B. LANGDALE, Headmaster,
The School,
Shrewsbury, Shropshire.
November 12.

Video violence

From Miss I. Hayes

Sir, Your correspondent, Mr Arthur Buttersworth (November 16), is confusing fact with fiction. Horrors seen in real life by people who have not sought them out have a different psychology from the horrors invented by film-makers for money.

Perverting people watch video nasties for enjoyment and are tempted to imitate them. They are shown how to commit extra cruelties which they themselves could not invent.

The point of censorship is to protect people like Mr Buttersworth from seeing the victims of sadistic crimes which less stable characters have been shown how to perform on video.

Yours,
I. HAYES,
The New House,
East Grafton,
Marlborough,
Wiltshire.
November 16.

Business confidence

From the Chairman of Reed International plc

Sir, In his letter of November 15 Mr Martin Wassell used your leader on the CBI conference for a generalized attack on the "gloom-mongers of the CBI" and the general competence of British managers.

It is true that some employers who spoke at the conference were gloomy for the simple reason that they are not yet seeing any light; those in the building and construction industries being an obvious example. The majority, however, were not gloomy. Indeed, as the recent CBI/BIM survey showed, there is a new spirit of confidence among managers.

They have faced up to the recession and come through it. The companies they work in are leaner and fitter and better equipped to design, make and sell their products, because they have made them so. Both productivity and profitability have been improved, largely through the efforts of management and not because of any major recovery in the markets they serve.

Mr Wassell criticized British

Sound basis for negotiations on Cyprus

From Mr Francis Noel-Baker

Sir, On Tuesday I returned from my forty-fifth visit since Eden sent me to Cyprus to mediate between Makarios and Harding. I visited both sides and met leading Greek and Turkish Cypriots.

Inter alia, we discussed UDI and I warned them, verbally and on paper, against it because it would freeze the present partition, delay talks with Greek Cypriots and disturb mainland Turkey's relations with the Community.

Personally, however, I do not believe that Mr Denktash's declaration has changed much in Cyprus. I have long thought that the UN's "megaphone diplomacy", through inter-communal talks, was doomed to fail.

I am now more than ever convinced that the best hope is a sustained and persistent low profile shuttle mission, without publicity, to sound out the four parties (of whom Ankara and Greek Nicosia are decisive). It could seek to establish the real positions of the parties. If, on basis of meaningful negotiations emerged by them, the parties could be invited to meet - not before. If not, no harm will be done.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
FRANCIS NOEL-BAKER,
10 Drayton Gardens, SW10.
November 18.

From Lord Bethell and others

Sir, We are pleased that the Government has, albeit belatedly and as a result of a further deterioration of the crisis, invoked the 1960 Treaty of Guarantee on Cyprus and invited our treaty partners, Greece and Turkey, for consultations on Cyprus's future. We in Friends of Cyprus have on many occasions urged this course through your columns on successive British governments.

We invite the Government now to put Cyprus on the agenda of next week's Commonwealth conference. Their views on the "hijacking" of a large part of a fellow Commonwealth country would be welcome at this stage, especially since it has been suggested that one or two Commonwealth countries, such as Malaysia and Bangladesh, might be ready to recognise the new "state".

Still, at least Mr Denktash's declaration of "independence" has put paid to the myth that prevailed in official circles since 1974 that inter-communal talks on their own could solve Cyprus's problems.

Whether or not Ankara knew of the decision in advance, the presence of about 18,000 of her troops in the north of Cyprus will place the Turkish government in a particularly awkward position vis-à-vis her various treaty obligations. We cannot imagine how Turkey will

explain this to her NATO partners or to the other two guarantor powers.

The United States policy of leaving Cyprus on the "back burner" has also proved a failure. Nearly 10 years of separation, with no effective outside power showing willingness to mediate, have served only to make the two communities harder to reconcile.

We are encouraged to note that the Government now seems ready to carry out its duties under the Treaty of Guarantee and, for the sake of peace in the eastern Mediterranean, we implore Greece and Turkey to work seriously with Britain in this initiative.

Yours sincerely,
NICHOLAS BETHELL, Chairman,
ALFRED DUBS, Vice-Chairman,
CYRIL D. TOWNSEND, Vice-Chairman,
Friends of Cyprus,
Palace of Westminster, SW1.
November 18.

From Mr Paul Mullins

Sir, Why should the partition of Cyprus not formally be recognized? The Turkish Cypriots will surely be reluctant to ever engage in more than the loosest federation with their fellow Greek islanders, after their own appalling experiences during the long and farcical campaign for Enosis (union with Greece) waged by the Eoka terrorists prior to 1974.

With the island now tranquil because it is divided the best that can be hoped for is in effect two separate states under one federal umbrella - perhaps that of the UN.

If there is to be any reconciliation in Cyprus, it must be between two parties of equal standing, and this means that the fictitious veil of Turkish illegality must be cast off. There is just fault on both sides, which the current legal situation does not recognize.

Britain, Greece and Turkey, as guarantors of the 1960 treaty of independence, have a duty to find a practical solution to the Cyprus problem. This sadly must include recognizing that the island is divided for good, and for the better.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL MULLINS,
22 Bromfield Street, N1.
November 16.

From Dr John Triseliotis

Sir, Those who ask whether the Republic of Cyprus will use force to re-unite Cyprus, seem to forget that there are more Turkish mainland soldiers per square mile in Cyprus than the reported number of Russians in Afghanistan.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN TRISELIOTIS,
20 Braid Farm Road,
Edinburgh.
November 17.

The Nilsen case

From Professor John Gunn

Sir, It is incorrect of David Nicholson-Lord (feature, November 5) to equate the Sutcliffe and Nilsen trials. In *R v Sutcliffe* there was unanimous psychiatric evidence that the defendant suffered from severe mental illness and that he fitted within the criteria established for diminished responsibility under the Homicide Act of 1957.

It was legally correct, but against established practice, and unhelpful for the jury to examine this matter. It would have been more understandable had it been possible to obtain a psychiatrist who disagreed with his colleagues so that a genuine debate of expert opinion could have been put before the jury. As it was, the debate became an unequal battle between psychiatrists and prosecution lawyers. It was no surprise that the prosecution lawyers won.

In the Nilsen case there was agreement that Mr Nilsen did not suffer from a psychosis, but there was a difference of opinion among the psychiatrists as to whether the defendant had any personality disorder he has and whether or not his disorder fits the criteria for diminished responsibility. In these circumstances, which are quite common in murder trials, it is entirely appropriate for the jury to decide between the two sets of expert opinion.

Of course these psychiatric wrangles, which fit uneasily into our jury system, could be eliminated almost entirely by adopting the recommendation of the Butler committee made in 1975. The mandatory sentence of life imprisonment for murder should be abolished and then the trial would be concerned, as it is in all other types of offence, only with the facts and overriding factors which absolve all responsibility.

The vast majority of psychiatric evidence could then be introduced into the sentencing phase in mitigation and the judge could decide upon an appropriate disposal balancing the needs of the offender against the needs of society.

It must seem particularly ironic to Mr Justice Croom-Johnson, who tried the Nilsen case, to watch these unnecessary and highly expensive diminished responsibility wrangles when he was vice-chairman of the Butler committee that made such a sensible proposal eight years ago and which has been assiduously ignored by Parliament.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN GUNN,
Institute of Psychiatry,
De Crespigny Park,
Denmark Hill, SE5.
November 7.

'Social justice'

From Mr Daniel Johnson

Sir, It is very much to be doubted whether A. J. Nicholls (November 16) is right to diagnose amnesia in Friedrich von Hayek's scepticism about the notion of a "social market economy". Professor Hayek's faculties seem undiminished to many of us and it is especially dangerous even for so fine a historian as Mr Nicholls to quote the case of Erhard against him.

In the May issue of *Encounter* Professor Hayek is quoted thus: "May I tell you the story of when I last spoke to Dr Ludwig Erhard? We were alone for a moment and he turned to me and said, 'I hope you don't misunderstand me when I speak of a social market economy (sozialen Marktwirtschaft). I mean by that that the market economy as such is social, not that it needs to be made social...'"

Yours faithfully,
DANIEL JOHNSON,
14 Ashchurch Terrace, W12
November 16.

Government's changes in industrial relations legislation. This is a travesty. Not only has the CBI consistently supported the Secretaries of State for Employment in the Bills they have introduced since 1979, it has also played a significant role in their original construction.

However, good industrial relations are not made by law alone; they are made by enlightened management and responsible trade unions and employees.

Finally, Mr Wassell talks of his "not inconsiderable contact with foreign businessmen". I have such contacts, too. Like him I find them full of admiration for the resolution that has been displayed by Mrs Thatcher and her colleagues. I also find a similar degree of admiration for the way in which British employers have responded to the toughest economic environment the world has seen since the war and one which hit Britain first and most severely.

Yours faithfully,
ALEX JARRATT,
Reed International plc,
Reed House,
83 Piccadilly, W1.
November 16.

Efforts to save Calke Abbey

From the Chairman of the National Trust for Places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty

Sir, For the past year the National Trust has been seeking ways to save Calke Abbey in Derbyshire. Our efforts so far have been in vain and the Calke estate will, accordingly, soon come under the hammer, unless the Government can be persuaded to help.

The importance of Calke lies in the timeless quality of the house, its contents, outbuildings and splendid landscaped park. As a document of social history it can have few equals. The whole estate comprises one of the few remaining unspoiled tracts of countryside in the vulnerable and built-up area of south Derbyshire.

The National Trust would open the house and park for the benefit and enjoyment of the public, and its programme of repair and conservation would, over the years, make a significant contribution to employment in the area.

On the death of his elder brother in March 1981, Mr Henry Harpur-Crewe and his trustees faced a huge capital transfer tax liability. The only way to keep Calke intact was to offer it in lieu of tax to the Treasury, with the intention that the property should pass to the National Trust.

After lengthy negotiations, the Treasury agreed to accept the house, its contents and the immediately surrounding parkland, all of which were classed as of "historic value". No allowance was made, however, for any endowment to come to the National Trust, either in the form of outlying land, or a capital sum raised from the sale of land. The Trust could not be expected to take the property on these terms, and with time now running out, the Harpur-Crewe trustees have been forced to begin the process of selling.

When the National Heritage Memorial Fund was established in 1980 it was recognised by the Government in Parliament that special assistance by way of supplementary grant to the fund might well be needed if more than one property of national importance came under threat at the same time.

It must be appreciated that as a result of the recent rescue operation for Belton House, the National Heritage Memorial Fund may not be able to provide the necessary funds to save Calke without further recourse to the Government. The National Trust is asking Ministers to exercise the discretion already provided for in the heritage legislation to accept the land which would enable Calke Abbey to be endowed and preserved for the nation.

Yours faithfully,
GIBSON, Chairman,
The National Trust for Places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty,
36 Queen Anne's Gate, SW1.
November 17.

Church and remarriage

From the Bishop of Knaresborough

Sir, May I clarify the purpose of my amendment to the remarriage proposals before the Synod, as reported in *The Times* of November 11.

The wording accepted by Synod makes no judgment on whether vows can or cannot be rescinded, but speaks rather of "release" from the "effects and obligations" of those vows; and it does this in a firmly pastoral rather than juridical context, "for the quieting of your conscience".

My amendment, however, also makes plain, and this was my purpose in moving it, that this release can only be of a pastoral nature. Many of the commitments arising from a previous marriage are, by their very nature, lifelong and these go far beyond what any court of law may require. There is the lasting commitment of love towards any children. For Christians there must also be a lasting concern for the wellbeing of the previous partner.

No release therefore can be total. My amendment has, I hope, clarified this point by speaking of such release as being only from those obligations "which are now incapable of fulfilment", thereby leaving the rest intact.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN KNARESBOROUGH,
16 Shaftesbury Avenue,
London WC2E 7BN.
West Yorkshire.
November 12.

Winged chariot

From Mr Richard Aplin

Sir, Dr Humphrey (November 12) can surely not have missed the discovery of another contender for the shortest measurable interval of time. I refer to the period elapsed between Monsignor Bruce Kent speaking his mind and a Tory MP asking for his position to be reviewed. I venture to suggest this unit be called "a hume".

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD APLIN,
Hart Cottage,
20 Easton Road,
Middle Barton,
Oxford.
November 16.

Path of error

From Mr Paul Jennings

Sir, Some lines composed upon reading my own article (line 2) in *The Times* today:

"Vine media" non scripsi,
Cum scribam non est tibi;
"Vine media" I wrote
Sed error crept into this quote;
Quomodo, knows only Deus -
Error crept non est mens!

Yours sincerely,
PAUL JENNINGS,
Hill House,
Rectory Hill,
East Bergholt,
Near Colchester,
Essex.
November 17.

WHEN A MARRIAGE HAS BROKEN DOWN

Important social issues are raised by the Government's Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Bill, which is to be debated by the House of Lords today.

At present divorce proceedings cannot be started within three years of the date of the marriage unless leave of the court is obtained on the ground that the case is one of exceptional hardship suffered by the petitioner, or exceptional depravity on the part of the respondent. The purpose of the bill is to discourage irresponsible or trial marriages and to provide an external buttress to the stability of marriages during the difficult early years. The Bill now seeks to replace this provision by an absolute bar on petitions for divorce within one year of marriage, without exception.

The main reason for the proposal, which was initially recommended by the Law Commission, is that the present rule works unsatisfactorily and is inconsistent with the policy of our present divorce law, that a marriage which has broken down irretrievably should be dissolved with the minimum bitterness, distress, and humiliation. It requires a spouse seeking leave to petition for divorce within the three year period to make the most unpleasant allegations against his or her partner in order to make out a convincing case. This does nothing to help either party to come to terms with the breakdown of the marriage, or to adopt a conciliatory attitude towards the resolution of problems such as the upbringing of their children.

Would the change make divorce easier? The answer must

be yes. But that is not the real issue. The question is whether the proposal would further undermine the institution of marriage. To a large degree this must depend on the extent to which the present rule still fulfils its original function. It is, in fact, highly doubtful whether it really does discourage people from entering into hasty marriages. There cannot be many people, even nowadays, who marry with one eye on the altar and the other on the divorce court.

Such evidence as there is tends to suggest that the restriction only preserves, for an arbitrary period of time, the legal bond between some couples whose marriage has, in fact, irretrievably broken down. The proposal should therefore not be seen as a new threat to the institution of marriage. It does no more than develop the policy of the Divorce Reform Act 1969.

Viewed from that perspective, the advantages of the proposed change clearly outweigh its disadvantages. The merits of the proposed changes to the principles governing financial awards after divorce are no less debatable. The present statute requires the court to consider all the circumstances of the case, and then to try to place the parties in the financial position in which they would have been had the marriage not broken down. The statutory objective embodies a principle of life-long support at the standard enjoyed during the marriage. The principle is rooted in the concept of marriage as a life-time union and reflects an earlier law of divorce founded on the doctrine of the matrimonial offence. Now that divorce (and remarriage) is no longer exceptional, and irrevocable break-

down rather than fault is the ground of divorce, the statutory objective has become inappropriate as the primary aim to be achieved by financial orders after divorce. It is also rarely attainable in practice, because a husband with two homes (and often two families) to support will seldom have the resources to maintain the first one at its previous level.

The Bill rightly proposes the removal of the present statutory objective. But something is needed to replace the principle of life-long support. The Bill would require the court to give priority to the welfare of the children in its consideration of all the circumstances (which already happens), and to consider in every case whether it would be "appropriate" to make an order finally terminating the parties' financial obligations towards each other, either at once or after a period of adjustment. That apart, the Bill is quite directionless. Nothing is said about the aims to be pursued when a "clean break" is not appropriate (presumably the majority of cases), nor about how the court is to decide when such an order would be appropriate.

There must of course be flexibility in this branch of the law, because of the widely varying facts of each case, but there is a real danger that the almost complete lack of guiding principles in the Bill would create widespread uncertainty and inconsistency of practice. The danger here is particularly acute because the decisions involve the exercise of a judicial discretion and so are rarely appealable. The courts are entitled to more guidance than this from Parliament.

THE ARTS

The experience of *Good and Bad at Games*, which opens at the London Film Festival today, has fired William Boyd with enthusiasm for more scriptwriting: interview by John Preston

Exploring all the richness of adolescence

The path from novelist to screenwriter can be a tricky one to negotiate. The dialogue that sits happily on the page often sounds lifeless and awkward in front of the cameras. Yet it is a transition that William Boyd, whose novel *An Ice-Cream War* was a leading contender for last year's Booker Prize, has managed with considerable assurance in his first screenplay, *Good and Bad at Games*, which has been directed by Jack Gold and is premiered today at the London Film Festival. It will be shown on Channel 4 on December 8. The script evolved loosely from a story in Boyd's first book, *On the Yankee Station*, about a group of public schoolboys taking fumbling steps in courtship with girls from a neighbouring school. In the film, Boyd cuts back and forth between school days and a decade later, showing how received attitudes have remained entrenched and unquestioned, and, in particular, how bullying can leave an ineradicable mark.

Ten years ago stories about

public-school life were an almost extinct breed. Young authors who had been privately educated tended to look shifty and mumble inaudibly when questioned too closely about their privileged backgrounds. As a result, a large slice of adolescent experience went virtually undocumented. It is a gap that Boyd was anxious to fill.

"There seemed to me," he says, "to be an incredible paucity of good writing about adolescent public schoolboys. Considering how many British writers must have been through the public school system, the number of good realistic books, or films or television plays on the subject could be counted on the fingers of one hand. Apart from *It's a Wonderful Life*, *Raphaël's School*, *Play*, *we're stuck with* *Tom Brown's Schoolboys* and *Stalky and Co* all plucky little chaps and rotters. That's not what it was like at all for me. I wanted to write a script that would conjure up the experience as I remember it. I also wanted to explore that peculiar richness of adolescence. Some people have an

experience at the age of 17 or 18 in terms of prestige and adulation, particularly if they are good at games, which they will never again recapture in their adult lives. So life after school is oddly flat and disappointing."

Boyd was brought up in Nigeria, where his father was a doctor and his mother a teacher. At the age of nine he was sent to prep school in Scotland and thence on to Gordonstoun. He was not, he insists, particularly unhappy at school and managed to escape relatively unscathed. But others around him were not quite so lucky. "I remember there was one boy who was hated by literally everyone. I've no idea why but he had absolutely no friends. I wonder what it must be like for someone like that now, how it must have affected him. The extraordinary thing is that most people, once they've got through it, once they've survived, tend to start looking back rather fondly at it all. But what if someone went slightly mad or had a nervous breakdown? And what if all the time, even years later, he was

still planning to get his own back on the person responsible for making his life hell?"

As 31, and prompted by the success of *An Ice-Cream War*, Boyd has recently taken the plunge and given up his job as a lecturer in English Literature at St Hilda's College, Oxford, to become a full-time writer. With all the fuss surrounding the Booker Prize these days, the experience of having narrowly missed could well induce creative atrophy for life. Boyd, however, is busier and more productive than ever. Another film script has already been completed and he has just finished the first draft of a new novel, *Stars and Bars*, about an Englishman stranded in a remote hick town somewhere on the Alabama-Georgia border. "Obviously it is a far cry from the adolescent brutalities of *Good and Bad at Games*, but, once more, instilled values come under examination in times of crisis."

"It's a serious comic novel. The main character is fleeing English attitudes and states of mind. He

thinks that in America he will find the answers, the antidote, but all these dreadful things happen to him and he has to fall back on the reserves which his culture, his nationality and his upbringing have provided him with. The crux is whether those reserves stand the test or let him down terribly."

Clutching superstitiously on to the edge of the coffee table in front of him until he realizes it is made of chrome and not wood, Boyd says that he hopes he will be able to continue dividing his time between writing novels and scripts. Certainly, the experience of watching *Good and Bad at Games* come together has fired him with enthusiasm for more film work, although he is under no illusions about the sort of hazards that may lie ahead. "Subsequently here will probably be untempered disappointments but at least I got off to a happy start. The whole thing was an enormous education for me: watching the film being made and seeing how Jack Gold worked. I was a lot wiser but definitely not sadder at the end of it."



Photograph of William Boyd by Peter Tyrer

Concerts

Not a moment let go to waste

Arditti Quartet
Huddersfield Festival

Once again, as each November, the musical mind of the country has taken itself to Huddersfield, whose Contemporary Music Festival is bursting with new things. Most days there are three or four concerts, with the gaps filled in by lectures, seminars and films. The schedule is tough, and toughened further by programming that does not waste our time with yesterday's music.

Friday night's Arditti Quartet recital was typical. The classics were Carter's Second and Third Quartets, both of them joined by a recent outburst from Xenakis, *Tetra*, and a brand new quartet by James Dillon. It was not, however, hard work. The Arditti play Carter the way most quartets play Haydn: strongly, sensibly, wittily, as if there were no difficulty of performance or understanding. They also gave a remarkably full and detailed account of the Dillon Quartet, which was completed less than three months ago. It is a work worthy of their expertise and care.

Playing continuously over a stretch of 20 minutes, it occupies a world of chanting brilliance interspersed with periods of lethargy. All four instruments enjoy playing with quick figures in the cold, clean air at the top of their registers, although sometimes the cello may stride a bass line in the even rhythmic values that give so much of the piece a decisive drive. Other inventions seem to exist to cloud individuality but have their own sharp elegance: mazes of slow inter-penetrating

glissandos, networks of double stoppings, harmonies in high isolation. If these are sloughs of despond, there are also bursts of obviousness to set the music racing again with intellectual and expressive energy. The Xenakis, being music more hewn than thought and felt, was a good finale. It is a wonderfully barbaric piece, and although often coarse, it has savage beauties that the Arditti brought forward resolutely.

Paul Griffiths

LPO/Solti
Festival Hall

It was a concert that seemed a little too effortful in the assembly, and just a little too easy in the despatch. On Friday Haydn's "Military" Symphony became an overture, three pieces from Berlioz's *Damnation of Faust* acted as a lightweight entrée, and the Brahms Violin Concerto ended a rather incohesive and ultimately strangely unsatisfying concert by the London Philharmonic Orchestra.

It was not as if their conductor emeritus, Sir Georg Solti, failed to produce bold, often exciting playing, the polish, power and precision of the Haydn did not after all overdominate its less militaristic qualities of grace and good humour. The military was presented, quite rightly, decoratively and fancifully, and it put the orchestra into a good mood for the Rakoczi March fantasy of the Berlioz. The "Will o' the Wisp" minuet, too, was lit with tense

unpredictability as shooting string flames hurtled from the woodwind's dance, disrupting its very urbanity. And the same highly strung, instantaneous responses, the same raw nervous reactions which Sir Georg, unfailingly whips from his players, made the "Sylvia's Dance" a barely voiced, yet tingling ghost-waltz.

Both the very debonair quality of the Haydn and the insubstantiality of the Berlioz, though, seemed to throw an uncomfortable and unbalanced weight of expectation on the Brahms. Solti gave ample time and space for evolution, and the orchestra balanced this with deep-hewn staccatos and forceful accents. And itzhak Perlman, not perhaps at his most technically polished, gave a performance that was nevertheless fluently rhapsodic and reliably dramatic, without ever quite questioning or stimulating any of his or our more comfortably assured responses.

Hilary Finch

Claudio Abbado has signed a new long-term contract with Deutsche Grammophon. As music director of the London Symphony Orchestra, Abbado will commence a cycle of Mendelssohn symphonies and complete the Mozart piano concertos with Rudolf Serkin.

Dance

Royal Ballet
Covent Garden

We all know that the Royal Ballet is not exactly at its highest peak just at present, but there is no excuse for it to appear quite so depressingly poor as it did last week. The customary miscasting (based on the assumption that anyone who has been named a principal dancer must be suited to principal parts) was only partly to blame. Neither does the fault lie with the Covent Garden Orchestra: although playing in multi, to draw attention to a pay dispute, they were no worse and no better than usual.

So how to account for the weary, lack-lustre air and the fact that some dancers were doing markedly less well than they did in the same roles only last season? Why this loss of spirit, and how can it be remedied? Must heads roll (and, if so, whose), or will gentler measures prove enough? Whatever the answer, it is needed quickly.

Since *Raymonda Act III* was on the bill, I might have suspected my judgement to be jaundiced because of recent invidious comparisons. But it is not that the dances were, without exception, much less well performed than in the new Paris production. They were poor by any standard; and the whole audience noticed it. Not one of the soloists and princi-

pals roused enough applause to be able to come back and take a second bow.

The programme began with *Apollo* - or, to be accurate, *Apollo Scene II*, since it is given in the truncated form which Balanchine inexplicably preferred shortly before his death. One must not blame the Royal Ballet too much for that, since New York City Ballet have not yet restored the first scene, but they have said they intend to do so. Meanwhile, Stravinsky fans should be warned that they will not hear what the composer intended.

Bryony Brind had some nice moments, high-stepping at the beginning, but her solo as Terpsichore, but she had some odd moments too, and her colleagues were none of them at their best.

Ashton's *Variations Capricci* was the high spot of the evening, and will be fun for anyone who has not yet seen it, though I must say it does not really bear frequent viewing. As a piece for a gala occasion it is fine, in spite of Ossie Clark's silly costumes and David Hockney's splashy decor, but this season's programmes seem to be giving undue time to trivia. The cast of this work may be exempted from the general criticism, so all is not lost. But whoever wrote the programme note should look to his apostrophes.

John Percival

Television

Brilliant British raid on the Americans

Where were you when they broadcast Kennedy? (ITV in Britain, 24 other channels in far-flung places round the globe). Glued to the set no doubt, or at least checking that the video was working. Any difficulties you may have had in fitting your mental template of J.F.K. over the rather rounder features of Martin Sheen will not, in all probability, have detracted from your absorption in either the portrait of bygone days of the story itself.

Reg Gadeny, author and prime mover of this brilliant British raid on what should have been an inviolably American preserve, thinks his hero was a curiously empty man. That, presumably, was the key to Kennedy's success (politicians whose heads are full of their own thoughts seldom manage to ride the wave of the moment) and it is also perhaps the key to the success of Gadeny's script and Jim Goddard's direction, and to Sheen's success in the central part. Into

this empty vessel has been poured a rich cinematic brew, a plethora of plots and sub-plots unfolding with melodramatic intensity against a blindingly "authentic" backdrop.

"Squirt some juice into people's lives," exulted Bobby, anticipating the effect the new dynasty would have on a jaded nation. Grandpa Joe, a macho gleam in his eye, was shown presiding over a notably tough (and not to put too fine a point on it) juice-squirting clan. Frolicking in their pools, playing football on the New England cliff, bringing "class" to the dowdy halls of government, these stars of a real-life movie were seen constantly shadowed by the evil machinations of an arch-blackmailer. "The Kennedy weakness is sex," said J. Edgar Hoover (Vincent Gardemia) with twisted relish; Gadeny and Goddard took every opportunity to point up this threat as the fragile, flawed but lovable creatures set about embellishing them trying to steer the ship of state. Vanity,

vigour and hope, with Caliban down below.

In Part 1, Kennedy was shown reluctantly acquiescing in the Bay of Pigs invasion. Part 2, tonight, opens at a furious pace with savagely intense scenes of Jackie's domestic extravagance and the brutalities meted out to the civil rights freedom riders. Over these episodes, as later over Vietnam, Kennedy represents the president as concerned as much with his image as with political principles, and to this extent at least it takes its historical responsibilities seriously.

These responsibilities should not be minimized: this may be "entertainment" but it is also the nearest some people may ever get to a history of a period which, through the rhetoric of contemporary politicians, is still very much with us. Kennedy's detractors accuse him of duplicity, timidity at home and recklessness abroad. His supporters concede some early mistakes and weaknesses but

claim that the statesman who died at Dallas would have become an even greater force for sanity and moderation had he lived.

The swirling emotionalism of the drama obscures some of the crucial historical points on which discussion turned in *The Kennedy Legacy* (BBC2). The trouble with this in many ways fascinating programme was that virtually all the interviewees were supporters. Was Kennedy privately irresponsible? "Everybody has some faults," beamed his erstwhile chum Lord Harelech; his sex-life was politically irrelevant, said Arthur Schlesinger. The president who emerged from this unduly intelligent discussion was a mellowing man, growing with the job. Was the Cuban missile crisis his finest hour, or his most shameful one? BBC2 was ambivalent. What will Gadeny and Goddard have to say? We shall know tomorrow night.

Michael Church

Pop music

R.E.M.
Dingwalls

Listening to R.E.M.'s debut album, *Murmur*, has been one of the year's most furtive pleasures for lovers of American garage punk rock. The record's selection of subdued Southern allusions and downbeat metaphysics has set this four-piece, from Athens, Georgia, at a pronounced angle to their contemporaries. Because of *Murmur*'s dark moods and

deliberate understatement the audience for R.E.M.'s first English appearance were probably expecting the band's live performance to be similarly brooding; if so they were in for a pleasant shock.

Where the recorded material relies on dark precision the stage versions are fast and loud in the tradition of American garage punk rock. The strains of Sixties-crafted melodies that evoke such luminaries as Gene Clark and the Beau Brummels' Sal Valentine are giving a different focus and a far more vigorous shaking down of the ingredients. Then again, R.E.M.

are such an unlikely looking bunch of scruffy, with their unkempt image and homemade leathers, that they fall back into the eccentric mould once inhabited by the Lovin' Spoonful.

R.E.M. stand on their own by virtue of some mesmerizing songs. Minor-key melodies clatter against hard rhythms while Michael Stipe's vocals drift through a furious wall of Rickenbacker noise. Poor sound occasionally disguised the intent of "Sorry", "Bigrassie" and "Laughing" but the power of the band's stage presence kept them on course in the face

of howling feedback. It even worked in their favour. Beside Stipe the instrumental approach of Berry, Buck and Mills was richly enigmatic. They shifted gears like a bad-tempered pick-up truck; they would bump and bang over rough terrain then surprise everyone by rolling along on the flat as if nothing was wrong. R.E.M.'s classic tales of angst, "Radio Free Europe" and the single "Talk About the Passion", illustrated their rare quality. They modulated from fearful emotion to a psychotic peak.

Max Bell

PUBLISHING

The wild western winner

and, yes, Fay Weldon) than the self-contained extracts from no fewer than 26 of the most varied and intelligent novels published this year, including those by Malcolm Bradbury, D. M. Thomas, Salman Rushdie, Ann Schlee, A. N. Wilson, Graham Swift, Anthony Powell, John le Carré, Shiva Naipaul and Lawrence Sanders.

The large book, at £8.95, costs no more than many novels and is an absolute cornucopia of much that is best in contemporary British fiction. It is the bargain of the year, and will painlessly help you to decide which novels you want to read in full thereafter.

Mr Amis and Mr Burgess may not both have got on to the Book Marketing Council's latest promotional list of, merely, the 12 best novels written in the language since 1945 but they both have new novels coming from the same publisher, Hutchinson, in the Spring. Mr Amis's, *Stanley and the Women*, achieves the first page

of the new Hutchinson list; Mr Burgess's, *Endersby's Dark Lady*, is two pages later. Nor has Mr Burgess yet won the Booker Prize. Sometimes he must think he can never be first.

In my more jaundiced moments I wonder whether the English Centre of International PEN has more than about six members, Francis King, Lady Antonia Fraser, Katherine Nott, Lettice Cooper, Angus Wilson and probably another. International PEN is a most worthwhile and, alas, necessary organization but English PEN sometimes seems to exist for its own edification, which is fine. Even by its own standards of inbreeding some sort of record will surely be reached on its Writers' Day next Spring when, chaired by Lady Antonia, Sir Angus Wilson will speak on... Angus Wilson.

It is not too surprising that neither Sir Angus nor Doris Lessing and Muriel Spark are among the BMC's star novelists. All three were on the selectors' list for a previous promotion, The Best of British Authors, but were removed unilaterally by the BMC's director, Desmond Clarke, as he decided they were not promotable. Mr Clarke will not have to publicize the latest list (what would he have done with *Ty Compton-Burnett* and Elizabeth Taylor?) as he is off to Faber and Faber as marketing director.

E. J. Craddock

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Brenda Solomon is incurable. Yet her laughter is infectious.
Brenda Solomon was training with Queen Alexandra's Nursing service when Multiple Sclerosis was diagnosed. As the symptoms grew worse, coping alone became impossible for her. So she came to the RHHI.
Now, though confined to a wheelchair, Brenda keeps busy. She speaks German and French, reads avidly and visits museums when possible. She enjoys the regular choir practice and concerts at the hospital and she especially enjoys her physiotherapy session. "When I'm on the stretching back," she says, "I feel ten feet tall!"
We have over 270 incurable patients like Brenda at the RHHI and we try to help them to regain as much independence as possible. Skilled nursing, therapy and medical attention help enormously. And our Research and Rehabilitation Wing examines and advances their long-term care.
We are a registered charity (No. 205907) and rely upon donations, covenants and legacies. Please help.
The Royal Hospital & Home for Incurables.
Patrons: HM The Queen and HM The Queen Mother

TO: Air Commodore D.E. Ranson, OBE, DFC, AFC, Director of Appeals, The Royal Hospital and Home for Incurables, Dept TS, West Hill, Putney, London SW15 3SW.
Yes, I would like to help. (Please tick)
☐ I enclose a donation to the RHHI.
☐ Please send me the RHHI's leaflet on making covenants or bequests.
☐ Please send me more information about the RHHI.
Name (BLOCK LETTERS, PLEASE)
Address

THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Is merger mania the bull market's swansong?

A few weeks ago, it was hardly possible to have a conversation in the City or read the Sunday financial pages without being regaled with some rumour about the latest part of the public sector about to be thrust into private hands. As the lengthy processes which privatisation requires have sunk in and the sale-of-assets privatisation timetable has become clearer, this talk has given way to a more familiar kind of City rumour: the takeover bid.

Anyone with a chunk of stock in a company that seems to be sagging thinks first of starting a bid rumour to get himself out at a profit. But there has to be an atmosphere in which any takeover seems possible and, preferably, a few substantial lines of stock floating around, for the wider rumours to have any plausibility at all.

The atmosphere certainly exists, created by, to name a few, the apparently unlikely bids for Thomas Tilling, P & O and Eagle Star. There are plenty of companies around with takeover ambitions and cash or high share price born of the bull market.

There are plenty of potential victim companies, some with large assets and depressed but improved profits, others where retirements have created a vacuum at the top, yet more where managements have cleaned up companies in difficulties without yet earning full appreciation of their efforts in terms of their stock market values.

The latest crop of rumours ranges from the highly possible to the wildly improbable. Mr Gerald Rouson's Heron Group could bid for Burmah, as could others, but the rumours have been going round for some time.

Mr Jimmy Gulliver of Argyl Foods might like to bid for Scottish & Newcastle Breweries, but would probably not get away with it. The tobacco group BAT might like to add Royal Bank of Scotland to its bid for Eagle Star, but could not plausibly do it for some time.

Associated British Foods has denied bid intentions for Tate & Lyle, which has taken great pains to explain its progress around the City.

As readers of *The Times*'s prediction of the Trafalgar bid for P & O will be aware, enough rumours do turn into realities to keep speculators in business. But the current rash of takeover tips also has a more depressing message.

Bowater, another currently touted victim was last involved in a merger extravaganza exactly 11 years ago, when its ill-starred reverse takeover of Ralli International marked the dying gasps of that bull market in shares on the stock exchange.

Takeover rumours have a nasty habit of reaching a frenzied pitch only when hopes of more conventional rises in share prices are petering out.

Unwinding Lord Leverhulme

The objective is simple, but the means are horribly complicated. Unilever wants to protect the charitable status of the Will Trust of the first Viscount Leverhulme against the deprivations of taxes undreamed of when the will was drawn up.

The Chancery Division in the High Court has agreed to changes which allow the trust to continue indefinitely instead of expiring in the year 2039. Shareholders

have to vote next month to cancel and then, paradoxically, restore the critical 14 per cent of Unilever's shares. Finally the Inland Revenue has to agree.

If all goes according to plan, charities - mainly scholarships for higher education and research - will continue to receive about £4m a year.

Changes are necessary largely because of capital transfer tax to which the trust would become liable in 1985. It would be faced with having to sell some of the Unilever shares it holds (amounting in all to 18 per cent of the equity) to pay CTT, and incur capital gains tax to boot. Both capital and income would drop and worthy causes made to suffer.

Of the 18 per cent of Unilever's equity held by the trust, the income from 14 per cent is attributable to a wholly-owned subsidiary called Associated Enterprises Ltd (AEL). The dividends on these shares are waived and thus effectively retained for the benefit of all shareholders. The balance of the trust's stock (4 per cent) provides income for charities.

Under the changes proposed the 14 per cent stake benefiting AEL will be cancelled but the same number of new shares will be created to bring the issued capital back up to its original figure. Unilever's earnings per share have always been calculated without counting the AEL interest so that part of the exercise should cause few problems.

The Leverhulme family interest in the trust will be converted into a special class of shares which can be converted into ordinary shares in 2038. The proposals relate only to Unilever plc and not to Unilever NV.

Unilever seems to have found a neat, if complex, solution to a difficult problem. If I were a Unilever shareholder I would not worry about it.

Well-tryed communication

Barclays' decision to alert the world that it is a seller of 20 per cent of Mercury Telecommunications could not have been timed better.

Fears the Mercury may have to battle it out in the market place with competitors other than British Telecom were allayed on Thursday when Mr Kenneth Baker, Information and Technology Minister, announced that for the next seven years at least, there will only be two companies providing telecommunications services - the BT giant and the Mercury pigmy.

This restriction must increase the value of the 20 per cent of Mercury which Barclays Merchant Bank is now anxious to offload. But how BMB fulfils its original aim of being a short term holder, however, is still unclear.

Suggestions of a public floatation look premature. So are reports that the major shareholders, Cable & Wireless and BF, will automatically take up their pre-emptive rights.

So far, the three participants have put up a combined total of £90m. By the end of next year the total investment is expected to be near £200m.

Barclays is presumably looking for at least £20m. It might count itself lucky to get more. Mercury's prospects, even in a highly controlled market for telecommunications services, dim a little as BT prepares for its privatization change.

Singer & Friedlander assets may top £50m

By Graham Seagrant

Singer & Friedlander, the accepting house put up for sale last week, is likely to show a net worth of around £50m when final sales documents are drawn up by S G Warburg, the rival merchant bank, in two to three weeks.

Singer's last balance sheet showed net assets of £37m. But profits this year will show a strong improvement on last year's £4.5m and the balance sheet will also make allowance for hidden reserves and higher property values, notably the bank's new City headquarters. Hidden reserves are unlikely to be shown separately.

Since European Ferries announced the sale, in order to concentrate its business on shipping, the port of Felixstowe and property, Singer and Warburg have had a constant

stream of inquiries. So far about eight of them are considered serious.

Singer has let it be known that it does not want to be taken over by an American bank and is not thought to welcome a link with money broking groups, which are thought to be interested. Nor does it welcome the group being organized by venture Mr Michael Ashcroft and Mr David Wickham, head of British Car Auctions.

When European Ferries bought Singer from the Bowring insurance broking group for £23.5m in 1980, it paid slightly less than the bank's true asset value. But in the changed climate of ferment in financial services, European Ferries will be hoping to sell at a premium over asset value.

Brent crude makes London futures debut

Oil exchange opens today

By Our Financial Staff

A new kind of crude oil trading begins in London today as the International Petroleum Exchange starts its first crude oil futures contract.

Proponents of the new contract claim that it is part of a revolution in the oil industry that will allow the play of market demand and supply on the exchange to have a greater influence on the administered price decision of oil producing countries.

But critics, especially among the big oil companies, believe the new futures trading will merely attract financial speculators and could lead to greater oil price volatility.

The new contract is based on

oil from the North Sea Brent field, the crude most actively traded on the European free spot market and the most sensitive to price fluctuations.

The contract is the first offered outside the United States. It works in the same way as in the other futures markets that have been trading in the City for decades and cover commodities ranging from gold to potatoes.

Traders at the IPE will contract to buy or sell agreed quantities of high quality sweet crude oil, deliverable on a specified date up to six months ahead.

Traders already refer to Brent as "the futures crude", because

Retailers look set to experience a record Christmas spending spree. According to the latest investigations by the Confederation of British Industry, almost 80 per cent of shopkeepers expect this month's sales to be up on a year ago.

The CBI's survey of the distributive trades, published today, also reveals that the high street boom has begun to spread to a wide cross-section of wholesalers, including those who supply industry, and may be an indication that the gradual economic recovery will continue to be consumer-led for months to come.

Although the survey is in its infancy, unlike the much respected CBI quarterly industrial trends survey, government ministers are likely to seize on the results as a counter to suggestions - and some tentative warnings from the CBI

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

itself - that the recovery might be faltering.

The survey, covering 678 distributors including 265 retailers, tends to confirm week-end reports that Christmas trading has begun early, with microcomputers, videos and television games among the products most in demand.

Some large shops even in the depressed West Midlands, are said to be reporting sales increases of 25 per cent compared with the same time last year.

The CBI figures show that throughout the distributive trades, companies have been caught out by the speed of the rise in demand. In September, a positive balance of 42 per cent expected the October sales volume to be up, in the event, the balance turned out to be 54 per cent. A similar increase in sales volume is now predicted

for this month compared with last year.

On the buoyant retail front, the volume of orders placed with suppliers was significantly higher than in the same month a year ago, giving a positive balance of 49 per cent of retailers saying they had stepped up orders. A similar increase is expected in the year to the end of November.

Among wholesalers, a positive balance of 70 per cent reported an increase in sales in the year to the end of last month, much higher than the 32 per cent predicted in September. The CBI says: "Significantly, these increases are reported across all parts of wholesaling, including the industrial categories."

In turn, wholesalers expect their demand to manufacturers

to rise steadily. This month, 57 per cent said their orders to suppliers would increase and 50 per cent expect stocks to rise, compared with a year ago.

An uncertain picture is presented, however, by the motor trade, which appears to be losing impetus since the record August boom in car sales. In October, 48 per cent said sales were down on a year earlier and 47 per cent reported a rise in stocks.

This month, 35 per cent of motor traders expect sales to be down compared with November last year and 42 per cent plan to reduce their orders to suppliers.

Despite the healthy signs in the distributive trades, industrialists are still concerned that without an increase in activity in the basic manufacturing sectors, the retail boom will serve to suck in more imports.

Packer buys 10% stake in TV-am

By Jonathan Clare

The Aitken family temporarily increased its stake in TV-am to almost 30 per cent during the troubled breakfast television station's financial reconstruction, while awaiting the advent of a new shareholder, which emerged as Mr Kerry Packer, the Australian media owner.

It was confirmed yesterday that Mr Packer's Consolidated Press had taken a 10 per cent stake in TV-am last Friday for £1m. One shareholder said: "It is not a rumour, it is a fact."

The majority of the shares came from Aitken Telecommunications, the Aitken family company. Mr Timothy Aitken is TV-am's chief executive.



Kerry Packer: director to join TV-am board

The Aitken family despite Friday's deal, is still marginally the biggest shareholder in the company, with about 20 per cent.

Fleet Holdings, the newspaper company which includes the *Daily Express*, *Daily Star* and *Sunday Express*, also has 20 per cent, bought three weeks ago for £2m.

Final figures have still to be juggled and it is likely that the Aitken family and Fleet will end up as "first equals."

Fleet was aware that Mr Packer was likely to become a shareholder when it bought its shareholding.

The Packer stake completes the reconstruction of TV-am and no new shareholders are now expected to emerge. Mr Packer has two Australian television stations and they are likely to contribute material to TV-am. But the present formula, which has built up the audience to 1.1 million, is unlikely to be changed to broadcast, say, Australian sport over British breakfasts. Mr Packer's company will also put a director on the TV-am board.

Mr Rupert Murdoch, who owns *The Times* through News International, is also said to have expressed interest in investing in TV-am, but wanted a company with direct involvement in satellite broadcasting.



Timothy Aitken: family still biggest shareholder

Rising home loans 'will fuel spending'

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

Mortgage lending is likely to go on rising rapidly, fueling consumer spending and helping to sustain the recovery and output, the London Business School predicts today.

In a new publication, *Financial Outlook*, which traces the financial flows underlying the LBS economic forecasts, it says the outstanding stock of housing loans will grow by 30 per cent in real terms over the next three years, with much of the extra lending leaking into general consumption.

This, and continuing low inflation, will help keep the savings ratio (the proportion of income saved) at around present levels of 8 per cent, the LBS says, ensuring that rising real incomes are transferred into increased spending.

The Treasury, too, believes that inflation, together with lower interest rates, will keep savings down, because lower inflation means consumers need to save less to maintain the real value of their financial wealth.

Its forecast for 2.5 per cent growth for consumer spending in 1984, after 3.5 per cent this year, relies both on a small further fall in savings and a rise in real after-tax incomes.

Despite the slowdown, consumer spending is still expected to be the biggest single component of the 3 per cent growth in

national output forecast for 1984.

The LBS says company profits will continue to rise rapidly over the next two years. It expects companies to invest more at home and to acquire more foreign assets, now that they have the funds to do so.

But the LBS also believes that investment abroad by financial institutions will be cut back because portfolios now contain the desired proportion of overseas stocks and shares, and that foreigners will step up their investment in Britain.

"So there is no net reduction in finance available in this country," the *Financial Outlook* concludes.

In a special "viewpoint" the *Outlook's* editor, Mr Giles Keating, argues that cutting public borrowing will not result in lower interest rates without a radical change in financial management. He recommends the creation of a "silt famine" to bring interest rates down at the long end of the market and thus revive the corporate bond market.

The Government's own borrowing needs to dampen monetary growth in the face of high bank lending is self-defeating, Mr Keating argues, because it keeps long term rates high and depresses short term rates, further encouraging bank lending.

New blow to Wibau as chief executive resigns

By Our Financial Staff

Wibau, the troubled West German cement equipment manufacturer, and its parent company, IBH - in which British companies hold a 23 per cent stake - was hit further at the weekend by the sudden resignation of Herr Roland Spicka, the chief executive.

The founder and chief executive of IBH, Herr Hori-Dieter Esch, said the departure followed disagreements with West German banks about Wibau's accounts.

Both IBH and Wibau are in receivership following the near collapse this month of the company's principal bank, Schroeder, Muenchmeyer, Hengst (SMH). Last week, more than 800 of the 2,500 workers at the

three British subsidiaries of IBH were told they would be laid off.

Herr Spicka's resignation came as the committee of banks now running SMH was reviewing an application for a loan to meet Wibau's immediate liquidity needs. Wibau has been seeking a loan of Dm6m (about £1.5m) in advance of a decision expected this week from the Hesse state government whether to grant a credit guarantee of Dm50m.

Last Friday, a meeting between Herr Esch and the banks was inconclusive, although yesterday (Sunday) it was reported as saying that the interim loan, now cut to Dm3m, had been approved.

Brittan to check on Manx crisis

By Our Financial Staff

Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, is likely to discuss the effects of the succession of banking crises on the Isle of Man's economy when he visits the island this Thursday.

Since the failure of the Savings and Investment Bank and the subsequent collapse of smaller banks, cash has been drained from the island by investors.

The visit is primarily intended to establish contact between Mr Brittan as the new Home Secretary and the Manx Government. As a Privy Counsellor, he is the island's link with the Queen.

Banking and insurance normally contributes about one-quarter of the island's income. Investors who had lost money in the collapses were all told action was the responsibility of the Manx authorities.

The Manx Government recently eased some of the tough restrictions it placed on the issue of banking and deposit-taking licences after the collapses.

● The Isle of Man's pioneering plastic £1 note is due to enter circulation on Wednesday. The notes are printed on a material developed by Bradbury, Wilkinson - a firm of banknote makers - and Du Pont, the US chemical company.

The life of the note has been put at five to 15 years and it is expected to be popular with the public which dislikes coins - the Isle of Man has had a £1 coin for four years.

ECU bond launching

Copenhagen (Reuter) The European Community's 10-year bond of 75 million European currency units will be split into two parts and is expected to be launched today, the joint lead-manager, Spirekassen SDS, reported.

A total of 50 million currency units will carry an 11 per cent coupon and be priced at par; the rest will carry a low coupon of about 6 per cent and a premium redemption to yield almost 11 per cent.

The second issue is expected to be floated on the Copenhagen bourse.

The Week Ahead, page 14

STOCK EXCHANGES

Change on week

FT Index 721.4 down 3.7
FT 100 Index 93.15 down 0.55
FT All Share 452.18 down 1.3

Bargains: 17,902
Datastream USM Leaders Index 95.05 down 1.46
New York: Dow Jones Average 1251.02 up 0.82
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 9,386.68 up 81.05
Hong Kong: Hang Seng Index 888.49 up 21.55
Amsterdam: 148.4 down 2.1
Sydney: AO Index 713 up 0.6
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 1009.3 down 6.5
Bremen: General Index 127.11 up 4.23
Paris: CAC Index 144.8 up 2.7
Zurich: SKA General 295.1 up 5.1

CURRENCIES

Change on week

LONDON
Sterling \$1.470 down 175pts
Index 85.6 down 0.5
DM 3.5725 down 0.01
¥ 12.050 down 0.005
Yen 347.00 down 3.50
Dollar Index 128.7 up 0.7
DM 2.7040
NEW YORK
Sterling \$1.4665
Dollar DM 2.7082
INTERNATIONAL
ECU 0.688519
SDRO 709303

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am \$376.25 pm \$375.25
close \$376.00 (\$255.75)
New York (latest): \$377.50
Krugman (per coin): \$386.50-388.00 (\$263.00-264.00)
Sovereigns (new): \$88.50-\$89.50 (\$50.25-£61.00)
Excludes VAT

ANNUAL MEETINGS

TODAY - Resource Technology, 24 Austin Friars, EC2 10 am.
WEDNESDAY - Barratt Developments, Savoy Hotel, Strand, WC2 (noon).
THURSDAY - Amstrad Consumer Electronics, The Northumberland Suite, Tottenham Hotspur Football Club, 748 High Road, Tottenham, N13 3 pm; Goodman Brothers, The Westbury Hotel, Conduit Street, W1 (noon); John Maunders Construction, Midland Hotel, Peter Street, Manchester (noon); TSW-Television South West Holdings, The Studios, Derry's Cross, Plymouth (2.30).
FRIDAY - Great Universal Stores, Chartered Insurance Institute, 20 Aldermanbury, London EC2 (noon); M. P. Kent, The Grand Hotel, Broad Street, Bristol (noon); Manson Finance Trust, Grosvenor House Hotel, Park Lane, W1 (noon).



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JAPAN AIR LINES

RACING: LEADING OWNER AND CHAMPION JUMPING TRAINER TO TEAM UP

Dickinson sets up switch to Flat as private trainer to Sangster

Michael Dickinson, champion National Hunt trainer for the past two seasons, is to join forces with Robert Sangster, the most influential owner-breeder in Flat racing. Dickinson will be leaving Harewood, his present base in Yorkshire, in September, 1985 and start training privately for Mr Sangster on the Flat at Whatcombe, in Oxfordshire, in 1986.

"This is a marvellous opportunity," the 33-year-old trainer said yesterday. "It is one I could not afford to miss. And I have decided that if I'm going to switch to the Flat I had better do it while I am still comparatively young."

The story of Dickinson's meteoric rise to fame reached its climax at Cheltenham last March when he won the way as the trainer brought off the remarkable feat of saddling the first five horses home in the Cheltenham Gold Cup. In the previous season - only his second - Dickinson had provided the winner, Silver Buck, and the runner-up, Bregazzi. Last season he broke all previous records by training 120 winners of races worth £340,000.

"I will continue to train jumpers for the rest of the season and for the whole of next season as well," he continued. "And there is going to be no easing off the throttle. I've got my reputation to consider and my living to earn. My enthusiasm for the fray will be in no way diminished and there will be no slackening off."

This latest move by Mr Sangster is entirely in keeping with his policy of employing the top professionals in the sport which he has turned into such a lucrative business. Michael Dickinson is an exceptional young man, he said yesterday. "He's like Vincent O'Brien. He's a genius. He's going to have a full back-up team and we won't fail."

"As we move towards the 1990s I can visualise Vincent and David O'Brien with 70 horses at Ballydoyle and Michael with the same amount at Whatcombe. The remainder will be divided among my other trainers, who include Barry Hills, Jeremy Hindley, Michael Stoute and Bill Watts."

An absorbing battle for power in the bloodstock world is developing between Sangster and the new Arab owners such as the Maktoum family of Dubai and Prince Khalid bin Abdullah of Saudi Arabia. At present the Maktoums have 250-300 horses in training and Abdullah is also extending his interests. I can see myself with about half that number," Mr Sangster said.

The Arabs are attempting to break Sangster's stranglehold at the top end of the industry by the sheer weight of the purchasing power of their petrodollars. However, during the past eight years Sangster has collected a priceless band of brood mares which include the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe winners, Ivanjica and



Michael Dickinson: said to be leaving Yorkshire and National Hunt racing

Detroit. Only last week at Keeneland he made \$5.2m for the seven-year-old mare, Producer. "Producer is only one of 100 mares we own that are in foal to Northern Dancer or one of his sons", Mr Sangster said.

As with every step in Dickinson's career to date his latest decision has been reached only after considering the arguments both for and against his formidable energies to the flat. "During the past year I've had three offers including Mr Sangster's," Dickinson said. "At first I turned them all down. But when my secretary, Mrs Wilby, told me that I was losing money, despite having put up my training fees, things suddenly started clicking when I looked at the amount of money involved."

The world of Flat racing is infinitely more complicated and demanding than that of steeplechasing. Young colts and fillies for example, need much more careful handling than older geldings. All Dickinson's fine intelligence and resourcefulness will be needed as he comes to meet his new challenge.

The trainer then explained the business side of his forthcoming move. "I'm going

to Whatcombe on a five-year contract. It's all been worked out in detail with Mr Sangster. I'm going to have 45-50 horses in the first year. I expect to be educating 40 yearlings and the rest will be three-year-olds. In 1986 their number will be increased to 50."

Mr Sangster's policy has always been one of achieving success by selectivity rather than by sheer weight of numbers. And he is not a believer in the efficiency of the present 140-horse-power units. It is interesting to know that O'Brien, John Magnier and Pat Hogan have all been involved. "Everything Michael and I have arranged has been done with the full knowledge and approval of Vincent."

Teamwork has always been one of the features in the Dickinson success story. He has already worked out plans for his loyal band of supporters at Harewood. "I am taking both my head lads, Brian Powell and George Foster, and also my travelling head lad, Ian Wilder, to Whatcombe. But only two others of my staff, two lighter men, will be coming with me. The rest are too heavy for the flat. Their nature lies in the north as so many of them have promising careers as jump jockeys in front of them."

"My father and mother, Tony and Monica, are going to continue training jumpers at Harewood, though on a reduced scale. I'm going to be as sad at leaving them and Yorkshire as I will be about giving up jumping. I've got some marvellous friends up here."

Dickinson is going to have a busy time as he continues to concentrate his attentions on producing his usual spate of winners under National Hunt rules and also make preparations for his new life.

"The gallops at Whatcombe are in excellent condition. But we are obviously going to have to put down all the weather strip. No decision has yet been reached about the stables. They are in pretty good shape, but some of the rainwater is rather fashioned. I'm going to have a good look at them with the architects."

Dickinson's extraordinary professionalism and dedication have commanded the admiration of all those involved in racing as he has continued to scale new heights. The consistent form and brilliant jumping of his well-schooled horses have made him the darling of the punters and the envy of his fellow trainers.

After afterwards will be the drabber for his departure, but arrival into the high-powered world of Flat racing may in time add a new dimension to the summer scene. In making this transition, Michael Dickinson is not setting a precedent. He is following in the footsteps of those two great all-rounders, O'Brien and Ryan Price.

Michael Seely

A winning tradition at Whatcombe

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

The sale of Whatcombe has been handled by Christopher Stephenson, who was also responsible for the sales of Ferraris and Bellair Stands in Ireland and the United States to Khalid bin Abdullah and the Derwentwater Stand (of Arkle fame) in Ireland to the Maktoum family. No final price is being disclosed, but it is common knowledge that the original asking price was £2m.

Mr Stephenson says that successful stud farms and training establishments, like good vineyards, have about them some magical quality which distinguishes them from their apparently identical but lesser counterparts. Time has shown that Whatcombe has that magic.

The history of Whatcombe over the last 100 years is studded with some of the great names of English racing. Once it had been acquired by the

legendary Dick Dawson, it became the home of some of the most famous horses in the stud books, whose owners were some of the great patrons of the turf.

In 1920 Dawson bought Blandford, that prolific sire of classic winners, including Blenheim and the Triple Crown winner, Bahram. The latter stood and ended his days at Whatcombe where he is buried. Dawson, who was leading trainer three times, had as his most famous owner the Aga Khan. Among the horses that he trained for the Aga were Nureddin, Mahal, one of the fastest fillies of all time and Blenheim, who won the Derby in 1930.

More recently it was Arthur Baggett who carried that classic tradition further by training two more Derby winners at Whatcombe - Blakeney and Merston - whom he also owned and bred. By the time that Baggett retired in 1975, it

had also been the home of Drerring, one of the best milers in England, and subsequently an influential sire and his son Hemtercombe, a leading sprinter.

As any trainer will testify, arguably the most important part of any training establishment is the gallops. Those at Whatcombe, where there is room for 74 horses, are some of

the best in the country. They total about 250 acres and provide as much variety as anyone would wish.

Furthermore, the property and the gallops are surrounded by the peace and tranquility of downland and bridleways. It should be an ideal place for Dickinson to continue to work his magic.

The riding performance of the day was undoubtedly put up by John O'Neill on Little Bay in the Bass Special Chase at Ayr. O'Neill knows Gordon Richards' talented eight-year-old and the jockey's performance, delaying his effort until the flat, was rewarded when Little Bay sprinted past Real View close home.

The other features of the afternoon on the Scottish course were the victory of Lethbridge and Silent Valley. Lethbridge's jumping in the hands of Graham Bradley in the Embassy Premier Chase Qualifier was a joy to watch as he measured his success carefully and accurately. Cold Feet should win this afternoon's Criticism de Saint Cloud from Kaysa and the Bill O'Gorman-trained colt Rami who will be ridden by Lester Pigott. Deontae, Stoneyham, and Harry Hardy sent Real Gold from Ireland for the 10-furlong event, but she looks to have rather a stiff task.

Leaders over the jumps

JOCKEYS	Trainers
J O'Neill 65 42 27 3 -15.63	J Richards 20 14 10 0 -18.88
P Scudamore 65 42 27 3 -15.63	W Stephenson 24 18 11 0 -18.88
R B. Mitchell 65 42 27 3 -15.63	R B. Mitchell 24 18 11 0 -18.88
S. Smith 65 42 27 3 -15.63	J. Gifford 22 15 10 0 -18.88
R. B. Mitchell 65 42 27 3 -15.63	M. Dickenson 21 14 10 0 -18.88
H. Davies 65 42 27 3 -15.63	R. B. Mitchell 21 14 10 0 -18.88
H. Davies 65 42 27 3 -15.63	M. Dickenson 21 14 10 0 -18.88
P. Tuck 65 42 27 3 -15.63	L. Kinnaird 16 12 7 0 -40.17
M. Scudamore 65 42 27 3 -15.63	M. Lambert 14 8 6 0 -19.87
G. Bradley 65 42 27 3 -15.63	W. B. Mitchell 13 8 5 0 -40.25
	J. O'Neill 13 8 5 0 -40.25

JOCKEYS	Trainers
J O'Neill 65 42 27 3 -15.63	J Richards 20 14 10 0 -18.88
P Scudamore 65 42 27 3 -15.63	W Stephenson 24 18 11 0 -18.88
R B. Mitchell 65 42 27 3 -15.63	R B. Mitchell 24 18 11 0 -18.88
S. Smith 65 42 27 3 -15.63	J. Gifford 22 15 10 0 -18.88
R. B. Mitchell 65 42 27 3 -15.63	M. Dickenson 21 14 10 0 -18.88
H. Davies 65 42 27 3 -15.63	R. B. Mitchell 21 14 10 0 -18.88
H. Davies 65 42 27 3 -15.63	M. Dickenson 21 14 10 0 -18.88
P. Tuck 65 42 27 3 -15.63	L. Kinnaird 16 12 7 0 -40.17
M. Scudamore 65 42 27 3 -15.63	M. Lambert 14 8 6 0 -19.87
G. Bradley 65 42 27 3 -15.63	W. B. Mitchell 13 8 5 0 -40.25
	J. O'Neill 13 8 5 0 -40.25

Windsor

1.0 ROYAL BOROUGH HURDLE (Div 1: novices: 2483: 2m 30yds) (11 runners)

1. 0004-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

2. 0005-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

3. 0006-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

4. 0007-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

5. 0008-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

6. 0009-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

7. 0010-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

8. 0011-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

9. 0012-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

10. 0013-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

11. 0014-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

Leicester

12.45 JUNIOR HURDLE (Div 1: novices: 2755: 2m) (11 runners)

1. 0004-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

2. 0005-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

3. 0006-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

4. 0007-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

5. 0008-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

6. 0009-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

7. 0010-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

8. 0011-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

9. 0012-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

10. 0013-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

11. 0014-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

Windsor

1.30 RUSSELL HURDLE (Selling: conditional jockeys: £200: 2m 30yds) (11 runners)

1. 0004-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

2. 0005-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

3. 0006-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

4. 0007-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

5. 0008-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

6. 0009-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

7. 0010-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

8. 0011-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

9. 0012-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

10. 0013-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

11. 0014-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

Leicester

1.15 BRIAN INGLEALLS HURDLE (Novices: 4-y-o: £2874: 2m) (7 runners)

1. 0004-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

2. 0005-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

3. 0006-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

4. 0007-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

5. 0008-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

6. 0009-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

7. 0010-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

Windsor

2.0 SALT HILL CHASE (Handicap: £1,763: 3m) (9 runners)

1. 0004-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

2. 0005-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

3. 0006-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

4. 0007-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

5. 0008-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

6. 0009-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

7. 0010-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

8. 0011-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

9. 0012-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

Leicester

2.15 WHITE HART HURDLE (Handicap: £1,214: 2m 30yds) (12 runners)

1. 0004-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

2. 0005-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

3. 0006-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

4. 0007-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

5. 0008-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

6. 0009-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

7. 0010-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

8. 0011-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

9. 0012-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

10. 0013-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

11. 0014-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

12. 0015-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

Windsor

3.30 ROYAL BOROUGH HURDLE (Div 1: novices: 2483: 2m 30yds) (10 runners)

1. 0004-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

2. 0005-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

3. 0006-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

4. 0007-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

5. 0008-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

6. 0009-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

7. 0010-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

8. 0011-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

9. 0012-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

10. 0013-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

Leicester

2.45 THORPE SATCHVILLE HURDLE (£1,738: 2m) (4 runners)

1. 0004-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

2. 0005-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

3. 0006-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

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Windsor

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7. 0010-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

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4. 0007-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

5. 0008-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

6. 0009-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

7. 0010-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

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9. 0012-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

10. 0013-00 BOMBER (C) Campbell 4-10-10 R Campbell 4-10-10

Solicitors should not blindly follow counsel

Davy-Chiesman v Davy-Chiesman

Before Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice May and Lord Justice Dillon
[Judgment delivered November 18]

A solicitor nominated to act for a husband in receipt of legal aid owed a duty to inform the Legal Aid Committee of any change in circumstances which could substantially affect the litigation's chance of success in the litigation. A solicitor who failed to do this duty could be ordered to bear personally the costs of his own client or of another party to the litigation.

Although the solicitor was in many circumstances protected from personal liability if he had acted on the advice of experienced counsel he could not be exonerated if he blindly followed the views expressed by counsel without exercising his own independent judgment.

The Court of Appeal so stated in allowing an appeal by the Law Society (Legal Aid Fund) from a decision of Mr Justice Lacey given on February 3, 1983, who had dismissed an application by the Law Society under Order 62, rule 8 of the Rules of the Supreme Court in respect of the costs of certain proceedings between a divorced husband and wife.

The husband, who was made the subject of a criminal bankruptcy order, had been issued a legal aid certificate to enable him to pay for a lump sum payable to the husband direct. That was the course pursued by counsel when the application was heard before the judge and dismissed.

The wife asked for her costs to be paid out of the Legal Aid Fund. The application for costs was adjourned to enable the Legal Aid Fund to make representations. The Law Society issued an application under Order 62, rule 8 that the solicitor who had acted for the husband, Mr Ralph Haecms, should pay both the husband's and wife's costs personally. The judge dismissed the application.

Order 62, rule 8 (1) provides: "Subject to the following provisions of this rule, where in any proceedings costs are incurred improperly or without reasonable cause or are wasted by undue delay by any other misconduct or default, the court may make against any solicitor whom it considers to be responsible (whether personally or through a servant or agent) an order directing the solicitor to pay to the party in whose favour the costs are awarded the costs of the proceedings or such part of them as the court may direct." The judge dismissed the application.

Mr Swinton Thomas, QC and Mr Duncan Matheson for the Law Society (Legal Aid Fund); Mr Kenneth Maclean, QC and Mr John Caudle for the solicitor; Mr Ian Kennedy, QC and Mr Ian Hughes for the Law Society contending business committee as *amicus curiae*.

LORD JUSTICE DILLON said that although the argument in the appeal raised fairly widely over matters of principle, the only real issue was as to whether in the circumstances of the case the solicitor was entitled to be exonerated from liability because he acted throughout under the advice, and indeed under the domination, of experienced counsel properly instructed.

With respect to certain of the submissions which Mr Kennedy put before the court on behalf of the Law Society in its capacity of protector of the interests of practising solicitors engaged in contentious business, certain points, in his Lordship's judgment, were beyond possibility of serious argument.

First the court had a jurisdiction, the basis of which was helpfully examined in *Currie and Co v The Law Society* (1977) QB 990 to order the solicitor for a party to litigation to bear personally the costs of his own client or of another party to the litigation.

Second, the circumstances in which that jurisdiction would be exercised had been expressed in different language by different judges in *Myers v Elman* (1940) AC 281 and *Elman v Myers* (1940) AC 281. His Lordship was unable to agree with the judge that it was sufficient to absolve the solicitor that he acted in accordance with the advice of counsel. His Lordship would accordingly hold that a case for exercising the court's jurisdiction over solicitors in respect of costs was made out at that stage.

Third, in general there was no reason in principle why the fact that a solicitor was acting under a legal aid certificate should preclude the exercise of that jurisdiction.

Fourth, in general there was no reason in principle why the fact that a solicitor was acting under a legal aid certificate should preclude the exercise of that jurisdiction.

advice of experienced counsel properly instructed.

That was inherent in the division of the profession into two local branches, a division which in his Lordship's experience was normally highly beneficial to the litigant and to the community at large.

But the protection to the solicitor was not automatically total. The solicitor was highly trained and expected to be experienced in his particular fields of law and he did not abdicate all responsibility to his counsel by instructing counsel.

In the present case, the fact that he was acting on counsel's advice must absolve the solicitor from liability in respect of the grant in March 1982 of legal aid for the personal liability of the husband's claim for financial provision against the wife.

His Lordship had considerable difficulty in seeing how on the facts of the case anyone could have seriously thought that the husband had after a very short marriage any financial claim against the wife, but on that the solicitor was entitled to rely on the opinion of counsel.

Moreover, even if counsel did at the conference, apparently for instructional purposes, on February 26, 1982, express views which were inconsistent with those which he expressed in his written opinion of March 2, 1982, the solicitor was entitled to regard the written opinion as representing counsel's considered view, and to forward representations to the Legal Aid Committee without qualification.

At that stage there was no dereliction of duty or misconduct on the part of the solicitor.

When, however, counsel did the solicitor plainly appreciated, was that the husband was subject to a criminal bankruptcy order in a very large sum. It was therefore of fundamental importance that any capital sum should not go direct to the husband.

Any reasonable solicitor would have appreciated that and the solicitor did appreciate it, as his evidence showed. No court would have ordered the payment to the husband out of the wife's resources of a capital sum which was likely to be annexed once by the husband's trustees in bankruptcy.

When, however, counsel for the husband came to open the husband's application to Mr Justice Lacey in June 1982, counsel failed to pay attention to the husband's not insubstantial sum, and on the husband's behalf he abandoned all other claims.

The solicitor appreciated, as his evidence under cross-examination showed, that that was irreconcilable with counsel's opinion of March 2, 1982, but the change of front occasioned the solicitor no surprise because the solicitor had realised from the time of the conference which he had with counsel on April 19, 1982, or shortly thereafter, that payment of a lump sum to the husband, with which the husband could buy a house for himself, was what counsel was proposing to ask for.

The solicitor was, on the judge's findings which his Lordship would not for a moment dispute, an entirely competent and diligent solicitor. But he allowed his own skill and ability to be entirely subordinated to the dominant and forceful personality of counsel.

In his Lordship's judgment the duty which a solicitor owed to inform the Legal Aid Committee of any change in circumstances, as mentioned above, was independent of the duty which counsel owed to advise that the Legal Aid Committee be informed.

By that his Lordship meant that the solicitor's duty was not just to pass on any views expressed by counsel; he had to consider for himself the effect of the change of circumstances, use his own common sense and form his own view, though obviously in doing that he would take the view expressed by counsel into account.

Obviously also the Legal Aid Committee was not to be bombarded with notifications of every minute fluctuation in the estimate of the percentage prospects of success. The court was only concerned with a duty to notify when it appeared or about to appear to a reasonable solicitor that the assisted person no longer had any reasonable chance of success.

In the present case, however, it must have been plainly apparent to any reasonable solicitor, at or shortly after the conference of April 19, 1982, and it was fully understood by the solicitor, that the form of relief for which alone counsel was going to ask fell foul of the fundamental requirement that because of the bankruptcy any capital sum should not go direct to the husband, and was the one form of relief which counsel had in his opinion of March 2, 1982.

In those circumstances the solicitor was at that stage guilty of a serious dereliction of duty or of "serious misconduct" and the Law Society was unable to agree with the judge that it was sufficient to absolve the solicitor that he acted in accordance with the advice of counsel. His Lordship would accordingly hold that a case for exercising the court's jurisdiction over solicitors in respect of costs was made out at that stage.

For a fortiori such case made out at the later stage when on the second day of the trial and while the husband was giving evidence the judge adjourned for a short time in order that counsel, the solicitor and the husband could take stock of the position.

It was then plain to the husband that the application was going to fail. It must have been equally plain to the solicitor. The husband was willing to abandon the application. Yet it was reasonably estimated for a further two days, contested hearing, and the Legal Aid Committee was never informed of what was happening.

The continuation was at the insistence of counsel, but since, on the evidence before the court, counsel offered no rational explanation of how he was going to get over the difficulty to which the judge had drawn attention—that a capital sum paid to the husband, which was all that was being asked for, would be seized by the trustee in bankruptcy—his Lordship could not see that it could in the circumstances exonerate the solicitor that he acted on the advice of counsel.

Solicitors: Peter E. Furr; Ralph Haecms & Co, Peckham; Mr John L. Bowron.

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SYNERGY
PA to MD £8,000
A young but mature PA is required for the MD of a person appointed with carry over of pension and bonus. The ability to become involved in the business is essential. Salary negotiable. Social confidence, high energy and a pleasant personality are essential for this position. An ideal opportunity for a motivated individual.

EXPERIENCED EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
Personal Assistant required for Chief Executive of financial institution in Park Lane. Banking experience an advantage but not essential. Salary negotiable. C.V. to The Secretary's Service Ltd, 140 Park Lane, W1.

SHORTHAND SECRETARY
Required for partner in small firm of solicitors. £200 per week. Hours: 10-4. Dec 1983/Jan 1984. Tel Denise 248 0667 (no agencies)

Sloane Square
£9,000
This well-established French company is setting up an English representative office, and needs an administrator.

In addition to carrying out some secretarial duties you will be responsible for the office and its running. You will also be responsible for the company's public relations and will be expected to represent the company at a variety of occasions. The ideal candidate will be a person who enjoys working in a team and who is confident and assertive. The successful candidate will be offered a competitive salary and benefits package. Please send your CV to: Angela Mortimer Ltd, 151 Finchley Road, London, NW11 6AA. Tel: 01-483 9686.

Superior PA
c.£10,000
Opportunity for a first class Sec with good experience in advertising or public relations. This is an important and demanding position and the successful applicant will need to be well motivated and able to make decisions.

Pathfinders
PERSONNEL SERVICES
25 Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF
01-483 5132

BRANCH MANAGER
Circs £11,500 pa to share One of the UK's leading Recruitment Consultancies seeks an ambitious and talented candidate to take responsibility for a branch location in South London. Female/male candidate with a minimum 5 years experience of a progressive background in sales should write or telephone in complete confidence to:

Robert Wheller Regional Manager
Alfred Marks
Recruitment Consultants
77 The Broadway, Wimbledon SW19
Tel 01-540 0097

£9,000 of French Perfume in London
Fluent French (mother tongue standard) with plenty of experience of working in a sales environment. The successful candidate will be offered a competitive salary and benefits package. Please send your CV to: The French Perfume Company, 151 Finchley Road, London, NW11 6AA. Tel: 01-483 9686.

INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIES
A job to find better!

PA to MD - £9,000+ KENSINGTON
Our client, the largest Beauty Products Company in Europe, is seeking a PA/Secretary (French mother tongue) to work in the company. Some personal experience in a similar role is essential. Salary: £9,000-£10,000. Age 25-35. Good benefits.

THE GROSVENOR BUREAU
Staff Consultants

PA/SECRETARY
ADVERTISING
c.£8,500 +
Person, charming, an outgoing personality, the ability to work under pressure and be very well organised are essential for this demanding and rewarding job. The successful candidate will be offered a competitive salary and benefits package. Please send your CV to: The Advertising Company, 151 Finchley Road, London, NW11 6AA. Tel: 01-483 9686.

Bernadette of Bond St.
Recruitment Consultants
No. 55, Bond Street to Fenchurch Street
01-483 1204

FIGURE CONSCIOUS?
£8,000 neg.
Numerous PA/SECRETARIES needed by a fashionable French fashion house in the City. Some personal experience in a similar role is essential. Salary: £8,000-£9,000. Age 25-35. Good benefits.

SECRETARIES FOR ARCHITECTS
The successful candidate will be offered a competitive salary and benefits package. Please send your CV to: The Secretaries Company, 151 Finchley Road, London, NW11 6AA. Tel: 01-483 9686.

PA to CHAIRMAN
c.£9,000
Top level secretary of a leading financial institution. The successful candidate will be offered a competitive salary and benefits package. Please send your CV to: The PA Company, 151 Finchley Road, London, NW11 6AA. Tel: 01-483 9686.

SWEDISH SPEAKING
Sec/PA £8,000+
The Marketing Director of a leading financial institution in the City seeks an experienced and motivated PA/Secretary with fluent Swedish and English. The successful candidate will be offered a competitive salary and benefits package. Please send your CV to: The Swedish Company, 151 Finchley Road, London, NW11 6AA. Tel: 01-483 9686.

SECRETARIES PLUS
The Secretaries Company

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The Secretaries Company

SECRETARY
Required for architect's office within easy reach of Victoria Station. The successful candidate will be offered a competitive salary and benefits package. Please send your CV to: The Secretary Company, 151 Finchley Road, London, NW11 6AA. Tel: 01-483 9686.

JUNIOR EXECUTIVE
A person of initiative and energy, with a minimum of 2 years experience in a similar role, is required for a leading financial institution. The successful candidate will be offered a competitive salary and benefits package. Please send your CV to: The Junior Executive Company, 151 Finchley Road, London, NW11 6AA. Tel: 01-483 9686.

GOOD AUDIO SECRETARY
250 required for secretaries in London and the Home Counties. Please send your CV to: The Audio Company, 151 Finchley Road, London, NW11 6AA. Tel: 01-483 9686.

PRESTIGIOUS MERCHANT BANK
SEC. to MD. c.£7,800
An ideal opportunity to improve your career. This prestigious Merchant Bank is seeking a highly motivated and experienced Secretary to the Managing Director. The successful candidate will be offered a competitive salary and benefits package. Please send your CV to: The Merchant Bank Company, 151 Finchley Road, London, NW11 6AA. Tel: 01-483 9686.

PRIME PERSONNEL
637-9912

MY NEWS AGENCY
c.£5,000 per Annum
An ideal opportunity for a person with experience in a similar role. The successful candidate will be offered a competitive salary and benefits package. Please send your CV to: The News Agency Company, 151 Finchley Road, London, NW11 6AA. Tel: 01-483 9686.

PA to MD
An excellent opportunity to develop your career. The successful candidate will be offered a competitive salary and benefits package. Please send your CV to: The PA Company, 151 Finchley Road, London, NW11 6AA. Tel: 01-483 9686.

MULTILINGUAL SECRETARY
English mother tongue standard. The successful candidate will be offered a competitive salary and benefits package. Please send your CV to: The Multilingual Company, 151 Finchley Road, London, NW11 6AA. Tel: 01-483 9686.

ESTATE AGENTS
Kingshott, Hampshire. The successful candidate will be offered a competitive salary and benefits package. Please send your CV to: The Estate Agents Company, 151 Finchley Road, London, NW11 6AA. Tel: 01-483 9686.

ADVERTISING AGENCY
c.£7,500
A leading advertising agency is seeking a highly motivated and experienced Secretary. The successful candidate will be offered a competitive salary and benefits package. Please send your CV to: The Advertising Agency Company, 151 Finchley Road, London, NW11 6AA. Tel: 01-483 9686.

COLLEGE LEAVES
c.£5,000
A leading college is seeking a highly motivated and experienced Secretary. The successful candidate will be offered a competitive salary and benefits package. Please send your CV to: The College Company, 151 Finchley Road, London, NW11 6AA. Tel: 01-483 9686.

HOUSE OF COMMONS
The successful candidate will be offered a competitive salary and benefits package. Please send your CV to: The House of Commons Company, 151 Finchley Road, London, NW11 6AA. Tel: 01-483 9686.

ADVERTISING THE TOPS
c.£7,000
A leading advertising agency is seeking a highly motivated and experienced Secretary. The successful candidate will be offered a competitive salary and benefits package. Please send your CV to: The Advertising Agency Company, 151 Finchley Road, London, NW11 6AA. Tel: 01-483 9686.

ADMINISTRATIVE
c.£6,000
A leading company is seeking a highly motivated and experienced Secretary. The successful candidate will be offered a competitive salary and benefits package. Please send your CV to: The Administrative Company, 151 Finchley Road, London, NW11 6AA. Tel: 01-483 9686.

EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS
The successful candidate will be offered a competitive salary and benefits package. Please send your CV to: The Educational Company, 151 Finchley Road, London, NW11 6AA. Tel: 01-483 9686.

CHAIR OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING
TENABEAT
QUEEN MARY COLLEGE.
The successful candidate will be offered a competitive salary and benefits package. Please send your CV to: The Chair Company, 151 Finchley Road, London, NW11 6AA. Tel: 01-483 9686.

FIGURE CONSCIOUS?
£8,000 neg.
Numerous PA/SECRETARIES needed by a fashionable French fashion house in the City. Some personal experience in a similar role is essential. Salary: £8,000-£9,000. Age 25-35. Good benefits.

SECRETARIES FOR ARCHITECTS
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PA to CHAIRMAN
c.£9,000
Top level secretary of a leading financial institution. The successful candidate will be offered a competitive salary and benefits package. Please send your CV to: The PA Company, 151 Finchley Road, London, NW11 6AA. Tel: 01-483 9686.

SWEDISH SPEAKING
Sec/PA £8,000+
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PUBLISHING DIRECTOR
c.£10,000
A leading publishing house is seeking a highly motivated and experienced Publishing Director. The successful candidate will be offered a competitive salary and benefits package. Please send your CV to: The Publishing Company, 151 Finchley Road, London, NW11 6AA. Tel: 01-483 9686.

CITY £7,000
A leading company is seeking a highly motivated and experienced Secretary. The successful candidate will be offered a competitive salary and benefits package. Please send your CV to: The City Company, 151 Finchley Road, London, NW11 6AA. Tel: 01-483 9686.

GRADUATE/LEAVE
A leading company is seeking a highly motivated and experienced Graduate/Leave. The successful candidate will be offered a competitive salary and benefits package. Please send your CV to: The Graduate/Leave Company, 151 Finchley Road, London, NW11 6AA. Tel: 01-483 9686.

GOOD AUDIO SECRETARY
250 required for secretaries in London and the Home Counties. Please send your CV to: The Audio Company, 151 Finchley Road, London, NW11 6AA. Tel: 01-483 9686.

PUBLISHING TO £7,500
A leading publishing house is seeking a highly motivated and experienced Secretary. The successful candidate will be offered a competitive salary and benefits package. Please send your CV to: The Publishing Company, 151 Finchley Road, London, NW11 6AA. Tel: 01-483 9686.

INTERNATIONAL ADVERTISING
c.£7,000
A leading international advertising agency is seeking a highly motivated and experienced Secretary. The successful candidate will be offered a competitive salary and benefits package. Please send your CV to: The International Advertising Company, 151 Finchley Road, London, NW11 6AA. Tel: 01-483 9686.

RECEPTIONIST TO £7,500
A leading company is seeking a highly motivated and experienced Receptionist. The successful candidate will be offered a competitive salary and benefits package. Please send your CV to: The Receptionist Company, 151 Finchley Road, London, NW11 6AA. Tel: 01-483 9686.

ADVERTISING
c.£6,000
A leading advertising agency is seeking a highly motivated and experienced Secretary. The successful candidate will be offered a competitive salary and benefits package. Please send your CV to: The Advertising Agency Company, 151 Finchley Road, London, NW11 6AA. Tel: 01-483 9686.

SW1. Private estate agent
The successful candidate will be offered a competitive salary and benefits package. Please send your CV to: The Estate Agents Company, 151 Finchley Road, London, NW11 6AA. Tel: 01-483 9686.

RECEPTIONIST WITH INDEPENDENT
The successful candidate will be offered a competitive salary and benefits package. Please send your CV to: The Receptionist Company, 151 Finchley Road, London, NW11 6AA. Tel: 01-483 9686.

CALLING 'COLLEGE LEAVES'
c.£5,000
A leading college is seeking a highly motivated and experienced Secretary. The successful candidate will be offered a competitive salary and benefits package. Please send your CV to: The College Company, 151 Finchley Road, London, NW11 6AA. Tel: 01-483 9686.

ADVERTISING THE TOPS
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ADMINISTRATIVE
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EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS
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SECRETARIES PLUS
The Secretaries Company

SECRETARIES PLUS

DATE: 11-11-61

ACCOUNTANT

£12,000 pa

The Pharos Group of Companies

The Pharos Group of Companies has expanded rapidly and the first company was established in 1972. The same group now comprises twenty major overseas and is growing rapidly. We are the principle subsidiary companies that are independent and account based book keeping in London and Hong Kong. There are no set targets for a 7 7/8 in 1980 of £2m.

The post of Accountant is a full time position based in the South coast of Wales and would suit a qualified Accountant, with perhaps 2 years post qualification experience.

Fringe benefits include BUPA, LV's and pension insurance.

Applications accompanied by a full C.V. should be addressed to:

The Chairman and Chief Executive

Pharos Distribution Services Ltd.
5-11 Lexington St., London SE1 0NZ.

APPOINTMENTS

Institutional Executive

Required to join Middle Eastern unit in U.S. Brokerage firm. Must have proven contacts with major institutions in Middle East as well as being familiar with U.S., European, Japanese and Far Eastern markets. Must speak fluent Arabic and English.

Salary negotiable.

Reply Box 1400H The Times

ART PUBLISHERS

seek intelligent and methodical young assistant to report in despatch department.

TRAINE ACTUARY

Ordert, a firm of Consultants & Actuaries are looking for graduates in Maths, Stats or Economics. 16/17/18/19/20/21/22/23/24/25/26/27/28/29/30/31/32/33/34/35/36/37/38/39/40/41/42/43/44/45/46/47/48/49/50/51/52/53/54/55/56/57/58/59/60/61/62/63/64/65/66/67/68/69/70/71/72/73/74/75/76/77/78/79/80/81/82/83/84/85/86/87/88/89/90/91/92/93/94/95/96/97/98/99/100/101/102/103/104/105/106/107/108/109/110/111/112/113/114/115/116/117/118/119/120/121/122/123/124/125/126/127/128/129/130/131/132/133/134/135/136/137/138/139/140/141/142/143/144/145/146/147/148/149/150/151/152/153/154/155/156/157/158/159/160/161/162/163/164/165/166/167/168/169/170/171/172/173/174/175/176/177/178/179/180/181/182/183/184/185/186/187/188/189/190/191/192/193/194/195/196/197/198/199/200/201/202/203/204/205/206/207/208/209/210/211/212/213/214/215/216/217/218/219/220/221/222/223/224/225/226/227/228/229/230/231/232/233/234/235/236/237/238/239/240/241/242/243/244/245/246/247/248/249/250/251/252/253/254/255/256/257/258/259/260/261/262/263/264/265/266/267/268/269/270/271/272/273/274/275/276/277/278/279/280/281/282/283/284/285/286/287/288/289/290/291/292/293/294/295/296/297/298/299/300/301/302/303/304/305/306/307/308/309/310/311/312/313/314/315/316/317/318/319/320/321/322/323/324/325/326/327/328/329/330/331/332/333/334/335/336/337/338/339/340/341/342/343/344/345/346/347/348/349/350/351/352/353/354/355/356/357/358/359/360/361/362/363/364/365/366/367/368/369/370/371/372/373/374/375/376/377/378/379/380/381/382/383/384/385/386/387/388/389/390/391/392/393/394/395/396/397/398/399/400/401/402/403/404/405/406/407/408/409/410/411/412/413/414/415/416/417/418/419/420/421/422/423/424/425/426/427/428/429/430/431/432/433/434/435/436/437/438/439/440/441/442/443/444/445/446/447/448/449/450/451/452/453/454/455/456/457/458/459/460/461/462/463/464/465/466/467/468/469/470/471/472/473/474/475/476/477/478/479/480/481/482/483/484/485/486/487/488/489/490/491/492/493/494/495/496/497/498/499/500/501/502/503/504/505/506/507/508/509/510/511/512/513/514/515/516/517/518/519/520/521/522/523/524/525/526/527/528/529/530/531/532/533/534/535/536/537/538/539/540/541/542/543/544/545/546/547/548/549/550/551/552/553/554/555/556/557/558/559/560/561/562/563/564/565/566/567/568/569/570/571/572/573/574/575/576/577/578/579/580/581/582/583/584/585/586/587/588/589/590/591/592/593/594/595/596/597/598/599/600/601/602/603/604/605/606/607/608/609/610/611/612/613/614/615/616/617/618/619/620/621/622/623/624/625/626/627/628/629/630/631/632/633/634/635/636/637/638/639/640/641/642/643/644/645/646/647/648/649/650/651/652/653/654/655/656/657/658/659/660/661/662/663/664/665/666/667/668/669/670/671/672/673/674/675/676/677/678/679/680/681/682/683/684/685/686/687/688/689/690/691/692/693/694/695/696/697/698/699/700/701/702/703/704/705/706/707/708/709/710/711/712/713/714/715/716/717/718/719/720/721/722/723/724/725/726/727/728/729/730/731/732/733/734/735/736/737/738/739/740/741/742/743/744/745/746/747/748/749/750/751/752/753/754/755/756/757/758/759/760/761/762/763/764/765/766/767/768/769/770/771/772/773/774/775/776/777/778/779/780/781/782/783/784/785/786/787/788/789/790/791/792/793/794/795/796/797/798/799/800/801/802/803/804/805/806/807/808/809/810/811/812/813/814/815/816/817/818/819/820/821/822/823/824/825/826/827/828/829/830/831/832/833/834/835/836/837/838/839/840/841/842/843/844/845/846/847/848/849/850/851/852/853/854/855/856/857/858/859/860/861/862/863/864/865/866/867/868/869/870/871/872/873/874/875/876/877/878/879/880/881/882/883/884/885/886/887/888/889/890/891/892/893/894/895/896/897/898/899/900/901/902/903/904/905/906/907/908/909/910/911/912/913/914/915/916/917/918/919/920/921/922/923/924/925/926/927/928/929/930/931/932/933/934/935/936/937/938/939/940/941/942/943/944/945/946/947/948/949/950/951/952/953/954/955/956/957/958/959/960/961/962/963/964/965/966/967/968/969/970/971/972/973/974/975/976/977/978/979/980/981/982

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COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY

PALL MALL
No Premium

Prestige front, carpet showrooms/offices all inclusive with phone + T/V. Immediate avail. Short/long term. From £75 pw.

01-839 4808

PROPERTY TO LET

CENTRAL LONDON. LUXURIOUS new home, 6 main bedrooms, 29 sitting rooms, 10 bathrooms, 2 swimming pools, accommodation, CH & air cond, 2 carports, garden, garage and utilities extra package. Fully fitted, £2500 pw. 01-286 2716.

PUBLIC NOTICES

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
Prince Consort Medal
Countydown School of Music
Notice is hereby given that the Nominations for the Prince Consort Medal for 1983 will be received by the Corporation until the closing on Monday 13 September 1983 at 3.45 pm to reach the Council and to be presented to the Council and to the President.

Dated 17 November 1983
DAVID MCPHERSON
Hon Secretary

Will Need of Skills for CONTINUA
Continental Hotel, Continental Apartments, Continental Club, Continental Chambers, Kent, please contact by letter or telephone to Mr. J. G. Goss, 20 Watlington Road, Watlington, Kent.

DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS

SELENAVIA SURSAL have the ability to make your home a home. housekeepers, qualified in

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or in default thereof they will be bound to pay the same to the person making demand before such debt or damages shall be adjudged by a Court of Law.

Dated this 7th November 1963
D. J. S. J. Secretary
Chartered Accountant

W & S GARAGES Limited
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to the provisions of the COMPANIES ACT, 1947, that the registered office of the above-named Company will be held at the premises of the said Company, 5th Floor, Egyptian House, 170 Strand, London, W.C.2, on Monday, 18th June of Next Year between the hours of 10 o'clock and 4 o'clock in the afternoon for all purposes provided for in Sections 248 and 249 of the said Act of 1947.

Dated this 10th day of November 1963

Ordered by the Board of Directors,
W & S Garages Limited,
J. S. J. Secretary
Director

THE COMPANIES ACT 1948 to 1961
Sections 248 and 249

THEATRES

ADRIAN 554 7611-12, C.E. COTTON 554 7612-13
REDUCED PRICES PREVIEW
10.00-12.00 1.00, 1.00-2.00 2.00, 2.00-3.00 3.00, 3.00-4.00 4.00, 4.00-5.00 5.00, 5.00-6.00 6.00, 6.00-7.00 7.00, 7.00-8.00 8.00, 8.00-9.00 9.00, 9.00-10.00 10.00, 10.00-11.00 11.00, 11.00-12.00 12.00

MUSICAL OF THE YEAR
POPPY
By Peter Knapp & Henry Marsh
554 7611-12, C.E. COTTON 554 7612-13

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